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US ARMY RANGERS & LRRP UNITS 1942-87

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Abbreviations used in the text are as follows:

Co.	Company	Armd.	Armored
Bn.	Battalion	Cav.	Cavalry
Gp.	Group	Inf.	Infantry
Regt.	Regiment	SF.	Special Forces
Bde.	Brigade		
Div.	Division	Prov.	Provisional

Before the mid-1950s the US Army abbreviated numbered units e.g. '2nd', '3rd'; at that time the practice changed to e.g. '2d', '3d', and the change is followed in this text.

US Army Rangers & LRRP Units 1942-87

Introduction

Ranger—the very word conjures up visions of small, highly trained units executing lightning-fast raids on an unexpecting enemy. It is also synonymous with high *esprit de corps* and excellence at arms. The Rangers, however, have not been without their problems. Their missions and capabilities have often been misunderstood, and their personnel misused. Ranger organisation and missions have changed with each war, which has led to an additional problem—lack of continuity between the wars. Experience was lost, there was no evolutionary progress in development of techniques and equipment, and old lessons had to be relearned. In short, they were usually considered a provisional organisation, to be raised when needed, but disbanded when the need apparently ceased. Rangers have, until recently, suffered from lack of a centralised command and control headquarters to standardise doctrine and training, oversee equipment needs, look out for the units' interests, and ensure that they are employed as intended—to execute direct action missions against the enemy.

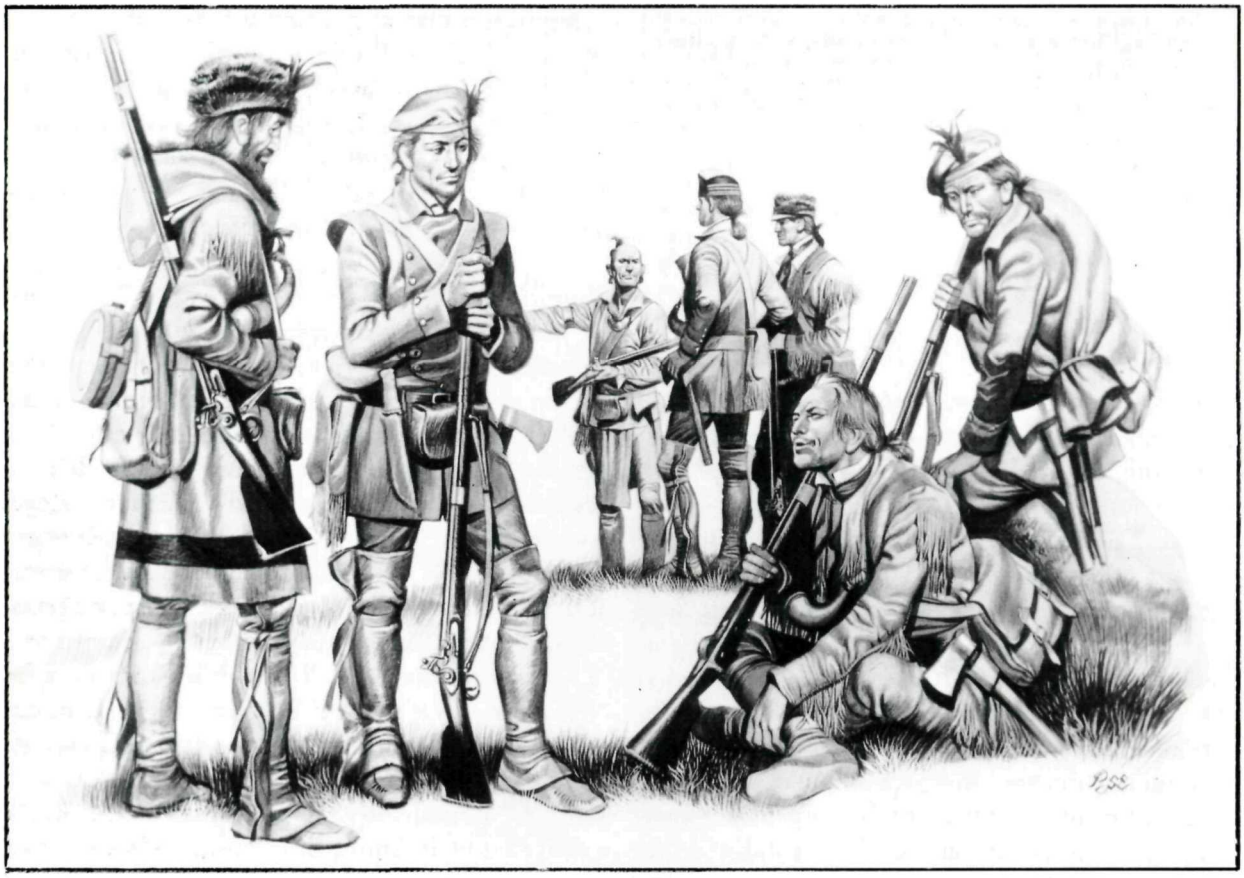
There are other organisations related to Rangers, which may be divided into two categories. 'Ranger-type' units were those specially trained for behind-the-lines direct action missions similar to units designated 'Ranger'. They possessed high *esprit de corps*, and their personnel selection and training standards were also higher than those of conventional units. The term 'Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol' (LRRP—pronounced 'lurp') is used as a generic term to describe units tasked with *passive* deep penetration reconnaissance missions. During certain periods they, too, were designated 'Rangers', but they have borne other titles.

* * *

The historical associations of the term 'ranger', used to describe a far-ranging forester or borderer, stretch back at least as far as 13th-century England. By the 17th century it was being used at least semi-officially in the titles of rather irregular and glamorous military organisations—e.g. the 'Border Rangers' who guarded England's troubled frontier with Scotland. There is evidence for the use of the word in North America during the intermittent Indian warfare of 1675—1715, the first confirmed locally-raised company to so style themselves being 'Church's Rangers'.

Rangers came into their own during the French and Indian (or Seven Years') War of 1755-63, which saw the raising of numerous companies of huntiers, frontiersmen, mixed-bloods and Indians to scout and raid for the British troops. The first was 'Gorham's Ranger Company', one of six 'Independent Companies of Rangers' raised from 1747 onwards. After Capt. John Gorham's death in 1751 his brother Joseph went on to command the six ranger companies at Quebec in 1759. The best-known unit, however, and that from which today's Rangers choose to trace their traditional lineage, was that led by Capt. Robert Rogers.

Originally the 'Ranger Company of the New Hampshire Provincial Regiment', and separated off in 1756 as 'His Majesty's Independent Company of American Rangers', the unit usually known as 'Rogers' Rangers' eventually grew to embrace nine companies. They mounted many daring operations, including deep penetrations of enemy-held country; and although disbanded at the end of the war in 1763 (a melancholy precedent indeed!), they did leave an indelible mark on American military history and traditions. This was reinforced over the generations by those other 'partisan-type' units which operated briefly, but along recognisably similar tactical lines, during the War of Independence, the various Indian wars, the Mexican War and the Civil War.



Standing Orders, Rogers Rangers

1. DON'T FORGET NOTHING.
2. HAVE YOUR MUSKET CLEAN AS A WHISTLE, HATCHET SCOURED, SIXTY ROUNDS POWDER AND BALL, AND BE READY TO MARCH AT A MINUTE'S WARNING.
3. WHEN YOU'RE ON THE MARCH, ACT THE WAY YOU WOULD IF YOU WAS SNEAKING UP ON A DEER. SEE THE ENEMY FIRST.
4. TELL THE TRUTH ABOUT WHAT YOU SEE AND WHAT YOU DO. THERE IS AN ARMY DEPENDING ON US FOR CORRECT INFORMATION. YOU CAN LIE ALL YOU PLEASE WHEN YOU TELL OTHER FOLKS ABOUT THE RANGERS, BUT DON'T NEVER LIE TO A RANGER OR OFFICER.
5. DON'T NEVER TAKE A CHANCE YOU DON'T HAVE TO.
6. WHEN WE'RE ON THE MARCH, WE MARCH SINGLE FILE, FAR ENOUGH APART SO ONE SHOT CAN'T GO THROUGH TWO MEN.
7. IF WE STRIKE SWAMPS, OR SOFT GROUND, WE SPREAD OUT ABREAST, SO IT'S HARD TO TRACK US.
8. WHEN WE MARCH, WE KEEP MOVING TILL DARK, SO AS TO GIVE THE ENEMY THE LEAST POSSIBLE CHANCE AT US.
9. WHEN WE CAMP, HALF THE PARTY STAYS AWAKE WHILE THE OTHER HALF SLEEPS.
10. IF WE TAKE PRISONERS, WE KEEP 'EM SEPARATE TILL WE HAVE HAD TIME TO EXAMINE THEM, SO THEY CAN'T COOK UP A STORY BETWEEN 'EM.

Standing Orders, Rogers Rangers

CONTINUATION

11. DON'T EVER MARCH HOME THE SAME WAY. TAKE A DIFFERENT ROUTE SO YOU WON'T BE AMBUSHED.
12. NO MATTER WHETHER WE TRAVEL IN BIG PARTIES OR LITTLE ONES, EACH PARTY HAS TO KEEP A SCOUT 20 YARDS AHEAD, TWENTY YARDS ON EACH FLANK AND TWENTY YARDS IN THE REAR, SO THE MAIN BODY CAN'T BE SURPRISED AND WIPED PUT.
13. EVERY NIGHT YOU'LL BE TOLD WHERE TO MEET IF SURROUNDED BY A SUPERIOR FORCE.
14. DON'T SIT DOWN TO EAT WITHOUT POSTING SENTRIES.
15. DON'T SLEEP BEYOND DAWN. DAWN'S WHEN THE FRENCH AND INDIANS ATTACK.
16. DON'T CROSS A RIVER BY A REGULAR FORD.
17. IF SOMEBODY'S TRAILING YOU, MAKE A CIRCLE, COME BACK ONTO YOUR OWN TRACKS, AND AMBUSH THE FOLKS THAT AIM TO AMBUSH YOU.
18. DON'T STAND UP WHEN THE ENEMY'S COMING AGAINST YOU. KNEEL DOWN, LIE DOWN, HIDE BEHIND A TREE.
19. LET THE ENEMY COME TILL HE'S ALMOST CLOSE ENOUGH TO TOUCH. THEN LET HIM HAVE IT AND JUMP OUT AND FINISH HIM UP WITH YOUR HATCHET.

MAJ ROBERT ROGERS 1759

An impression of Rogers' Rangers uniforms. Their principal uniform was forest green with a mixing of grey items, usually supplemented with buckskins. Scots bonnets and fur caps were the usual headwear. Maj. Rogers favoured a turned-up bill infantry cap. He is seen in the back centre conferring with a Stockbridge Indian from his Indian company. (Courtesy Ronald Embleton)

Standing Orders, Rogers' Rangers—Cards bearing the original 1759 orders are still given to today's Ranger students. (US Army)

World War II: Europe

North Africa, Sicily, Italy

The British formed their first Commando[1] units in the summer of 1940. They were raised to conduct amphibious raids on enemy-held coasts and later to seize objectives behind enemy lines. Intended primarily as a time-buying measure, while the British Army rebuilt itself in the aftermath of Dunkirk, the concept proved successful. It was expanded until, by the war's end, there was a bewildering array of British Commonwealth Commando, Special Air Service, raiding, covert reconnaissance, and other special operations units.

The birth of the modern Rangers owed more than just its basic concept of operations to the British Commandos. President Roosevelt had expressed an interest in the formation of US commando-like units, perhaps influenced by Churchill—ever enthusiastic about such ideas. In the spring of 1942 Gen. George Marshall, Chief of Staff of the US Army, sent Col. Lucian K. Truscott Jr. to England to co-ordinate the participation of American troops in British Commando raids. In May, Truscott recommended that a US commando unit be formed. Gen. Marshall ordered the formation of an 'American Commando' unit on 1 June 1942. Maj.Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Chief of Operations Division of the General Staff, asked for a different title, due to the strong British identity of 'commando'. Col. Truscott suggested Ranger, with the exploits of Rogers' Rangers in mind.

The unit's formation was ordered on 7 June 1942, and within days volunteers began to pour into the unit's camp at Carrickfergus, Northern Ireland. They came primarily from the 34th Inf. and 1st Armd. Divs. and V Corps troops. Over 2,000 men volunteered, with hundreds 'washing out' during the first two weeks. It was formally activated on 19 June as the 1st Ranger Bn.; Maj. William O. Darby, a Field Artillery officer serving as aide to the commanding general of US Army Northern Ireland, had been selected to command. On 28 June the 1st Rangers were sent to the Commando Training Depot at Achnacarry Castle, Scotland. A rigorous training programme followed, and the new Rangers learned much in the way of tactics and techniques as well as physical conditioning. They graduated on 31 July, and moved to Argyle for a month of amphibious training with the Royal Navy. It was during this period that 50 Rangers, attached to Nos. 3 and 4 Commandos and the 2nd Canadian Div., took part in the ill-fated Dieppe landing. Six Rangers were killed, seven wounded, and four captured. In September the battalion moved to Dundee to conduct coastal raid training, and subsequently to the outskirts of Glasgow for attachment to the 1st Inf. Division. Following a minor internal reorganisation, the unit began training for the invasion of French North Africa. Co. D was temporarily reorganised as an 81 mm mortar unit.

Departing England in Oct. 1942, the 1st Rangers landed at Arzew, Tunisia on the night of 8 November. Their mission was to seize two batteries which threatened the main landing beaches. Cos. A and B went straight into the harbour to take the smaller fort; the other companies landed four miles to the north-west and attacked the larger battery from the rear. The mission was a success with few casualties. Detached companies then assisted 1st Inf. Div. units to secure several nearby towns.

The next phase for the Rangers proved to be uneventful, as they were not committed to combat for three months; they were attached to the Fifth Army Invasion Training Center at Arzew as demonstration troops. At the end of Jan. 1943 over a hundred new volunteers were formed into a temporary Co. G and trained as replacements. Co. D divested itself of its 81 mm mortars and reorganised as an assault company. The unit was soon back in action with Cos. A, E, and F raiding Italian positions at Station de Sened on 11 February. Again attached to the 1st Inf. Div., the

'The term 'commando' had its origins with the Dutch Boer settlers of South Africa *kommando*, a term used to describe a 'command' of troops of no specific size. Due to the small scale hit-and-run tactics employed by the Boers the term became synonymous with that type of action, and was used to designate units (and their members) tasked to perform that mission. The term was suggested for British use by Lt.Col. Dudley dark of the Imperial General Stall in early 1940.

The 1st Rangers at Achnacarry Castle, July 1942. *(L to R):* Lt.Col. William Darby, 1st Rangers CO; Lt.Col. M. E. Vaughn, Commando Depot Cdr.; Brig.Gen. Lucian Truscott, the Army Chief of Staff's Ranger project officer; Maj. Max Schneider, 1st Rangers XO (later 5th Rangers XO and CO). (US Army)

Rangers assisted in securing Gafsa and El Guettar. On the night of 20/21 March the battalion, reinforced with a 4.2-in. mortar company and engineers, crossed ten miles of extremely rugged terrain to attack the rear of the Italians defending Djebel el Ank Pass in support of frontally attacking 1st Inf. Div. units. The Rangers secured the pass, killing over a hundred Italians and capturing hundreds more while suffering only one dead. The last Ranger action in North Africa was conducted at Djebel Berda, a defensive operation in late March. The companies were then sent to different locations to perform security patrols until moved to Nemours, Algeria in April.

The Rangers now entered a new phase. On Darby's recommendation, Gen. Marshall authorised the formation of two additional battalions on 19 April 1943. This group, with the attached 83rd Chemical Mortar Bn. (4.2-in.), was to be designated the Ranger Force (Prov.), and came to be known as 'Darby's Rangers'; however, no headquarters/staff were authorised. Darby had to command both the 1st Rangers and the Force. Ranger recruiting teams scoured replacement depots and units for troops of the high quality required. The 1st Rangers' Cos. A and B formed the cadre for the 3rd Rangers; Cos. E and F went to form the 4th Rangers, while Cos. C and D formed a new 1st Rangers. The two new battalions were activated on 21 May 1943; both were initially designated 'Provisional', although this was dropped on 21 July. Only six weeks were allotted to form and train the new units for their next missions.

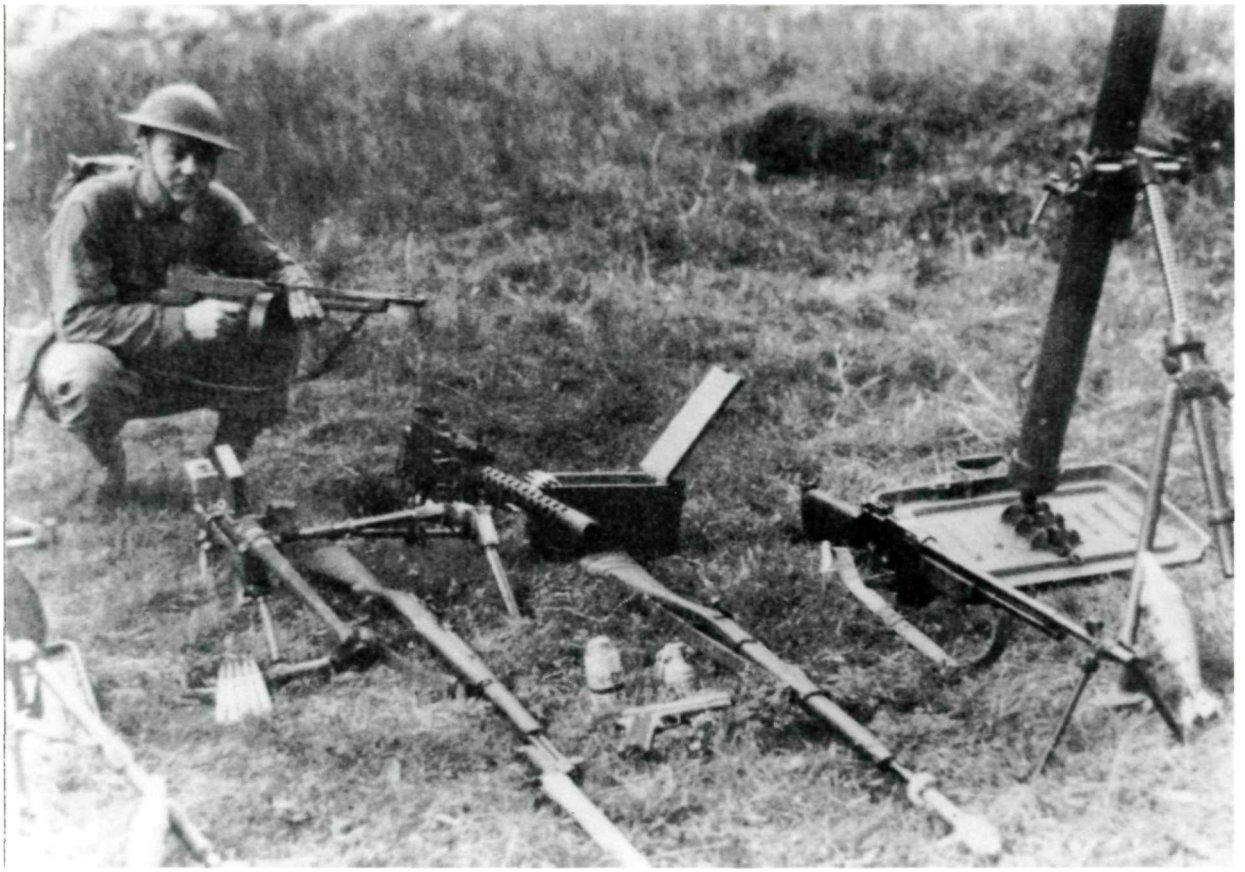
The invasion of Sicily was to be spearheaded by two Ranger assaults. The 1st and 4th Rangers, under Darby and attached to the 1st Inf. Div., landed against opposition at Gela on 10 July 1943. They cleared coastal defences, took Gela, and defeated armoured counterattacks. They then went on to take the San Nicola fortress and the town of Butera. The 3rd Rangers, attached to the 3rd Inf. Div., conducted an unopposed landing near Licata; after securing it, they took Montaperto and Porto

Empedocle. The three battalions were reunited and formed part of X Force, which included the 39th Inf. Regt., under Darby's command. This was one of the attacking columns tasked with sweeping around the western end of the island and driving to Palermo. The 1st and 4th Rangers were then placed in reserve. The Rangers were used exclusively as shock troops during this period. The 3rd Rangers accompanied X Force as far as Menfi, where they were again attached to the 3rd Inf. Div.; they continued the drive to cut off the enemy's retreat from the north-eastern end of the island to Italy. Again used as assault troops, they assisted in the effort to reach Messina, which was secured on 17 Aug.; the battalions then assembled at Palermo, and immediately began preparations for the invasion of Italy. This included the formation of a Ranger Cannon Company with four 75mm half-track mounted guns. On 1 Aug., all Ranger Bns. were re-designated Ranger Infantry Battalions.

The Ranger Force landed on the Sorrento Peninsula ten miles west of Salerno on 9 Sept. 1943, their mission being to secure the western flank of the invasion beachhead. Landing unopposed at Maiori, the 1st and 3rd Rangers moved north to secure Chiunzi Pass. The 4th Rangers secured the beach and west flank. They then moved west to Amalfi and north to Castellmmare while the other two battalions prevented the Germans from re-occupying the critical peninsula. A see-saw battle continued until the end of the month, when Allied forces broke out of the main beachhead; the Rangers took Pagani and Castellmmare, followed by a drive to Naples.

In early Nov. 1943 the 1st Rangers were attached to the 45th Inf. Div. and the 4th to the 3rd Inf. Div.; the 3rd Rangers, suffering the most from the previous battles, continued training replacements. The 1st Rangers became involved in prolonged mountain fighting in the Venafro area. This went on for weeks, and they were joined by the 4th Rangers. The 3rd Rangers were committed in late November in the San Pietro area, attached first to the 45th and then to the 36th Inf. Division. During this period of taking and defending mountains, ridges, and towns, the Rangers performed tasks for

1st Ranger Bn. troops negotiate an obstacle course at Argyle, Scotland, Aug. 1942. They are still wearing the M1917A1 helmet, but have recently been issued the M1 rifle. (US Array)



A 1st Ranger Bn. tech. sgt., holding an Ml Thompson SMG, displays his unit's weapons. *(L to R):* 6omm M2 mortar (off frame), British Boys AT rifle, M1 rifle, M1919A4 MG, M6 CN-DM (tear and vomiting gas) grenade, MkII frag, grenade, M1911A1 pistol, M1903A1 rifle with M9 AT grenade on an Ml launcher, M1918A2 BAR, and 81mm M1 mortar. Note his subdued rank stripes. (US Army)

which they were not originally intended. In December the Rangers were disengaged and moved to the Naples area.

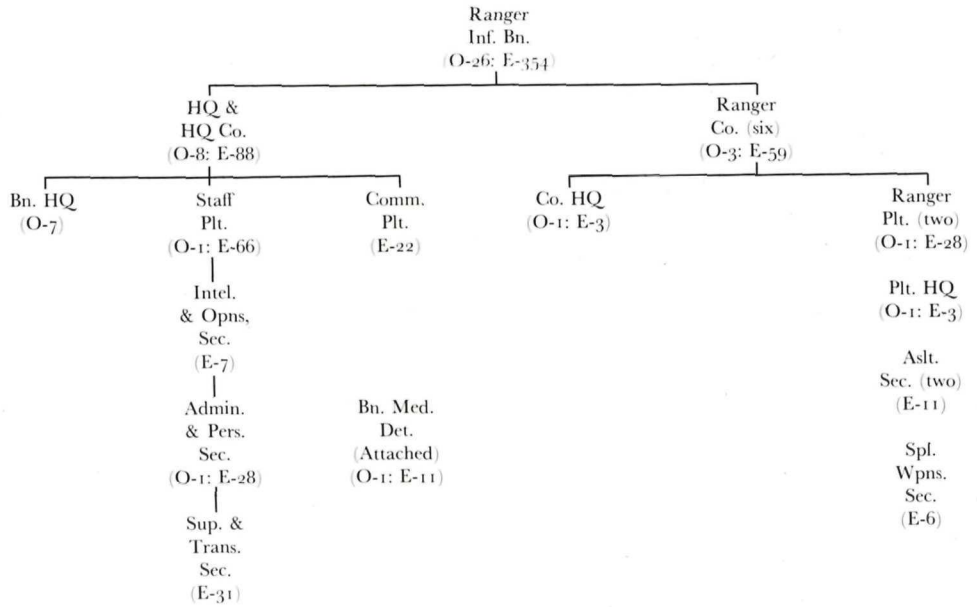
At Lucrino Station the Ranger Force began the now familiar cycle of training replacements—a continuing problem, as no formal Ranger replacement programme was in effect—and preparing for the next amphibious assault. The *ad hoc* Ranger Force was now formalised with its redesignation as the 6615th Ranger Force (Prov.) on 16 Jan. 1944; while still a provisional unit, it was authorised an HQ. Besides the three Ranger battalions, the 509th Parachute Inf. Bn.; 83rd Chemical Mortar Bn.; Co. H, 36th Engineer Regt.; and the Ranger Cannon Co. were attached. Darby was promoted to colonel to command the 6615th.

On 22 Jan. 1944 the 1st and 4th Rangers executed a pre-dawn unopposed landing on a beach in the centre of the port of Anzio. The 3rd Rangers and 509th Parachute came ashore in the second wave. Resistance mounted, followed by increasing German counterattacks. The Rangers established defensive positions north-east of Anzio until 28 Jan., when the three battalions were relieved by the British. They were ordered to assemble at Nettuno by 3rd Inf. Div., to which the Ranger Force was attached.

On the night of 29 Jan., after moving to their assault positions, the 1st and 3rd Rangers began their infiltration through enemy lines towards the town of Cisterna di Littoria: the 1st Rangers were to secure the town while the 3rd were to engage any enemy force which reacted to the 1st. The Force HQ, 4th Rangers, and the Ranger Cannon Co. were to move by road to Cisterna as reinforcements, while the 83rd Chemical Mortar Bn. provided fire support. Elements of the 3rd Inf. Div. were to link up with the Ranger Force on 30 January.

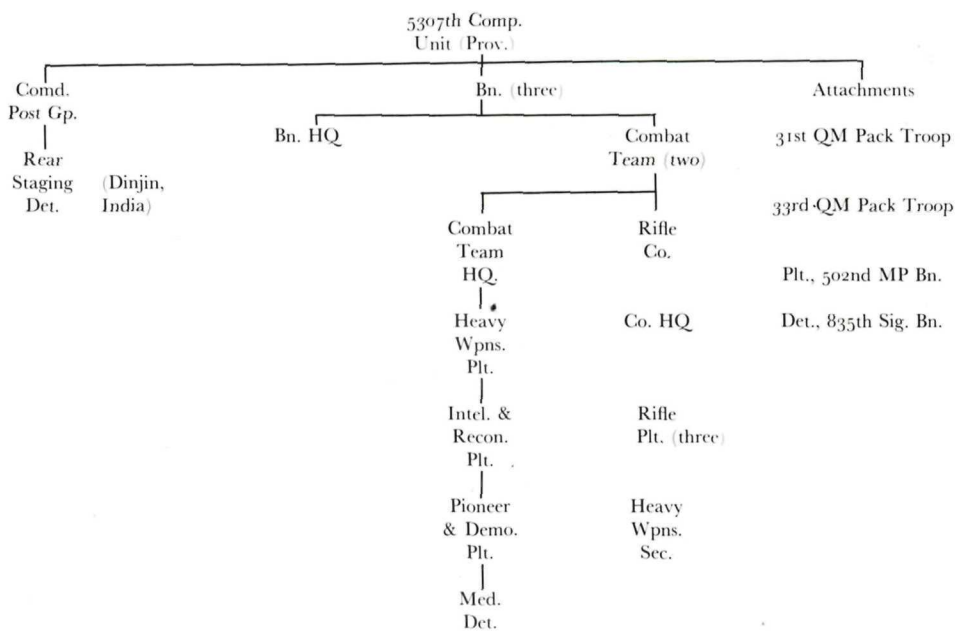
The 4th Rangers met strong opposition during their move, and the 1st and 3rd lost contact with

Ranger Infantry Battalion—1944



The number of authorised officers and warrant officers (O) and enlisted men(E) are indicated. The six Ranger Companies were designated A through F. Principal weapons included; 6 x 81mm M1 mortars, 18 x 60mm mortars, 14 x *2.36* inch M 1 rocket launchers, *20* x .55 cal, Boys AT rifles (seldom used, later deleted), 24 x .30 cal. M1919A4 MGs often replaced by BARs.

5307th Composite Unit (Provisional)—1944



Assigned strength, less attachments, was approximately 2,830 troops. A combat team was authorised 16 officers and 456 enlisted men. Principal weapons of a combat team included: 4 x 81mm M1 mortars. 4 x 60mm M2 mortars, 3 x 2.36 inch M1 rocket launchers, *2* x .30 cal. M1917A1 MGs, and 2 x .30 cal. M1919A1 MGS.

Aboard either the HMS *Ulster Monarch* or *Royal Ulsterman*, Royal Navy assault transports, 1st Bn. Rangers load an LCA with 81mm mortar rounds while *en route* to Algeria, 6 Nov. 1942. The white identification armbands and US flags can be seen. (US Army)

one another during the infiltration due to difficult terrain. Dawn found both battalions linked up, but on open ground just south of Cisterna. German resistance mounted rapidly, and the situation became critical as the Rangers realised they were being surrounded by armour and paratroop units. The 3rd Inf. Div. follow-on units had bogged down. The Germans continued to pour in troops, and Ranger casualties mounted while ammunition dwindled. By mid-morning the Ranger perimeter had shrunk to 300 yards, and both battalions were commanded by lone captains. The 4th Rangers made heroic efforts to break through, but resistance was impenetrable. German artillery now had the surrounded Rangers under constant fire while tanks attacked. Further efforts were made to break through by both the 4th Rangers and the 3rd Inf. Div.Force HQ and the 4th Rangers were surrounded by the afternoon, and not relieved until 31 January. Of the 767 men of the 1st and 3rd Rangers attempting the infiltration, only six made it back to Allied lines—all others were killed or captured.

The 4th Rangers fought on for a few more days, their last action being to defeat a German counterattack on 4 February. They were then used to conduct a Fifth Army patrolling school at Civitavecchia. Some 1st and 3rd Rangers did survive: these were support personnel and convalescing wounded. About 150 Rangers who had been in the units since North Africa were sent to Camp Butner, North Carolina on 6 May 1944, and then on to various replacement training centres as instructors, as many combat-disabled Rangers had done before them. Most of those having joined the Rangers in and after North Africa were re-assigned to the 1st Regt. of the 1st Special Service Force, where they were permitted to wear their battalion scrolls over the Force's arrowhead patch. The 1st and 3rd Rangers, at zero strength, were transferred to Camp Butner and inactivated on 15 Aug. 1944. The 4th Rangers were inactivated there on 26 October[1].

The 1st Rangers received Presidential Unit Citations for El Guettar and Salerno and were credited with participation in six campaigns, four involving amphibious assaults. The 3rd and 4th Rangers were credited with participation in four campaigns each, three with amphibious assaults. Additionally, the 3rd Rangers received the PUC for Salerno.

North-West Europe

While Darby's Rangers were making history, it was felt that a Ranger unit was still needed in England to conduct raids on Fortress Europe. In Sept. 1942, a directive from European Theater of Operations HQ authorised the formation of a Ranger unit to replace the imminently departing 1st Rangers. The 29th Provisional Ranger Bn. was formed on 20 Dec.

[1]Col. Darby, though slightly wounded, was assigned as CO of the 179th Inf. Regt, 45th Inf. Div. on 16 Feb. in April he was re-assigned to the General Stall's Operations Division in Washington and toured the country evaluating the effectiveness of infantry training. Always a fighter, he asked for a combat assignment after one year, and was made the assistant commander of the 10th Mountain Div. in northern Italy. On 30 Apr. 1945 he was killed by an 88mm gun fragment while visiting forward positions. He was the only US officer posthumously promoted to brigadier general.

at Tidworth Barracks, England, from volunteers from the 29th Inf. Div., with 18 members of the 1st Rangers (deemed unfit for combat) as training cadre. The unit soon endured the Commando Training Depot; they then moved to Bridge Spean for amphibious assault training, completing it in Feb. 1943. They were then moved to Dartmouth, and attached to No. 4 Commando for six weeks. During this period, members of the 29th Rangers, in conjunction with the Commandos, executed three small raids on the Norwegian coast. In May the unit moved to Bude, Cornwall and then to Dorlin House, Scotland, in July. Its next raid was on Ile d'Ouessant (Ushant Island) off the tip of Brittany. In August it was moved to Dover. This little-known unit was disbanded on 15 Oct. 1943 at Okehampton, Devon. Efforts were made to retain it, but with the pending arrival of the 2nd and 5th Rangers from the US it was felt that it was no longer needed, regardless of its practical experience. Its personnel were returned to their former 29th Inf. Div. units.

Back in the US, a Second Army Ranger School was established at Camp Forrest, Tennessee in Jan. 1943. Only two two-week cycles were conducted before Army Ground Forces ordered the school closed: it was felt that courses taking troops from their units were disruptive to training. Due to the successes of the 1st Rangers, it was decided that an additional battalion should be formed for use in the invasion of Europe.

Army Ground Forces issued a directive on 11 March 1943 for the activation of the 2nd Ranger Bn. on 1 April at Camp Forrest. Lt.Col. William C. Saffarans, who had commanded the Ranger School, was its first commander. His services were required elsewhere, however, and he was followed by three other commanders, none lasting more than a few days. Volunteers flowed in, but most were 'washed out'. Gradually the battalion began to take shape under the eyes of former 1st Rangers officers and NCOs (no longer considered fit for combat). Maj. James E. Rudder took command of the 2nd Rangers in June, and things began to tighten up. The unit followed a training programme similar to

1st Bn. Rangers consolidating on *Batterie du Nord* **at Arzew, Algeria at dawn on 8 Nov. 1943. (US Army)**

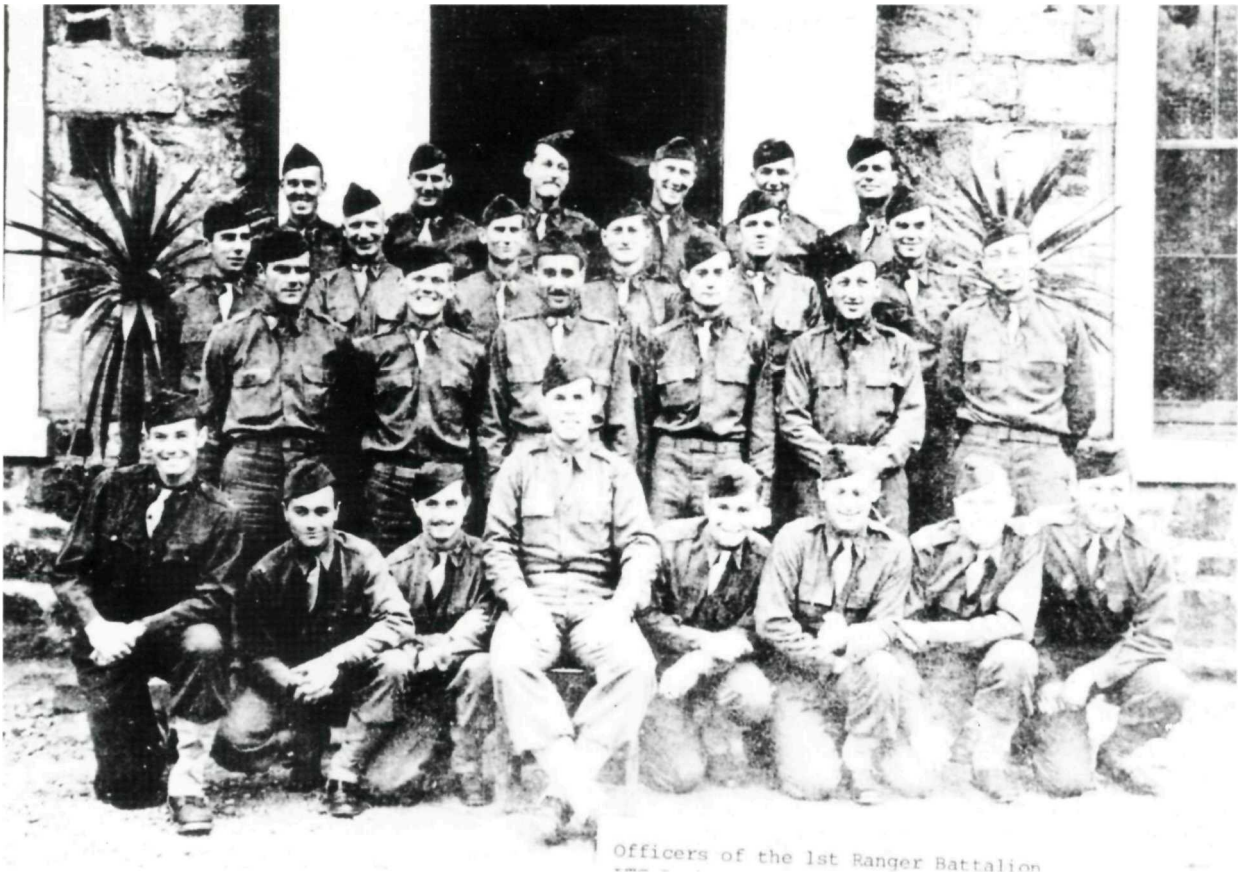
that of the Commandos. On 1 Aug. it was re-designated Ranger Infantry. The unit moved to Ft. Pierce, Florida in September to attend the Scouts and Raiders School, where it learned small boat handling. It moved on 17 Sept. to Ft. Dix, New Jersey for advanced tactical training. The 2nd Rangers departed for England on 21 Nov. 1943.

They were quartered in Bude, and conducted extensive unit and individual training. In mid-December some of the Rangers were attached to Commando units to take part in small reconnaissance and prisoner-capture raids on the French coast. On 28 Dec. the 2nd Rangers moved to Titchfield, Dorset. Here, several raids and reconnaissance missions were planned in conjunction with No. 4 Commando, but none were executed. Training continued to include cliff assault techniques—a sign of things to come—on the Isle of Wight. The unit returned to Bude in Feb. 1944 for yet more unit training and cliff climbing. In March the battalion was assigned a cannon platoon of four half-track mounted 75mm guns. The unit moved again in April, to North Devon and the British Assault Training Centre. On 27 April they moved to the outskirts of Dorchester, where they were joined by the 5th Rangers on 5 May. Training began in earnest for the invasion of Europe, including experiments with cliff scaling aids.

It had been determined that a second Ranger battalion was needed for the invasion of Europe. Army Ground Forces directed the activation of the 5th Ranger Inf. Bn. on 1 Sept. 1943 at Camp Forrest. Training began on 14 Sept., assisted by former 1st Rangers troops. The new unit's initial training followed a similar pattern to the 2nd Rangers'. It moved to the Scouts and Raiders School in Florida for amphibious training in November; and on 20 Nov. to Ft. Dix, NJ, followed by advanced tactical training until it departed for England in Jan. 1944.

Arriving at Liverpool on 18Jan., the 5th Rangers moved to Leominster for more tactical training. In March the unit arrived at the Commando Training Depot to conduct its 'rite of passage', followed by the British Assault Training Centre in April. Lt.Col. Max F. Schneider, formerly of the 1st

1st Ranger Bn. troops conducting a tactical withdrawal demonstration at the Fifth Army Invasion Training Center, Arzew, Algeria, Dec. 1942. They are wearing the wool uniform. (US Army)



1st Ranger Bn. officers in Arzew, Algeria, late 1942. Lt.Col. Darby is seated in the centre. All are wearing the OD wool service uniform. (US Army)

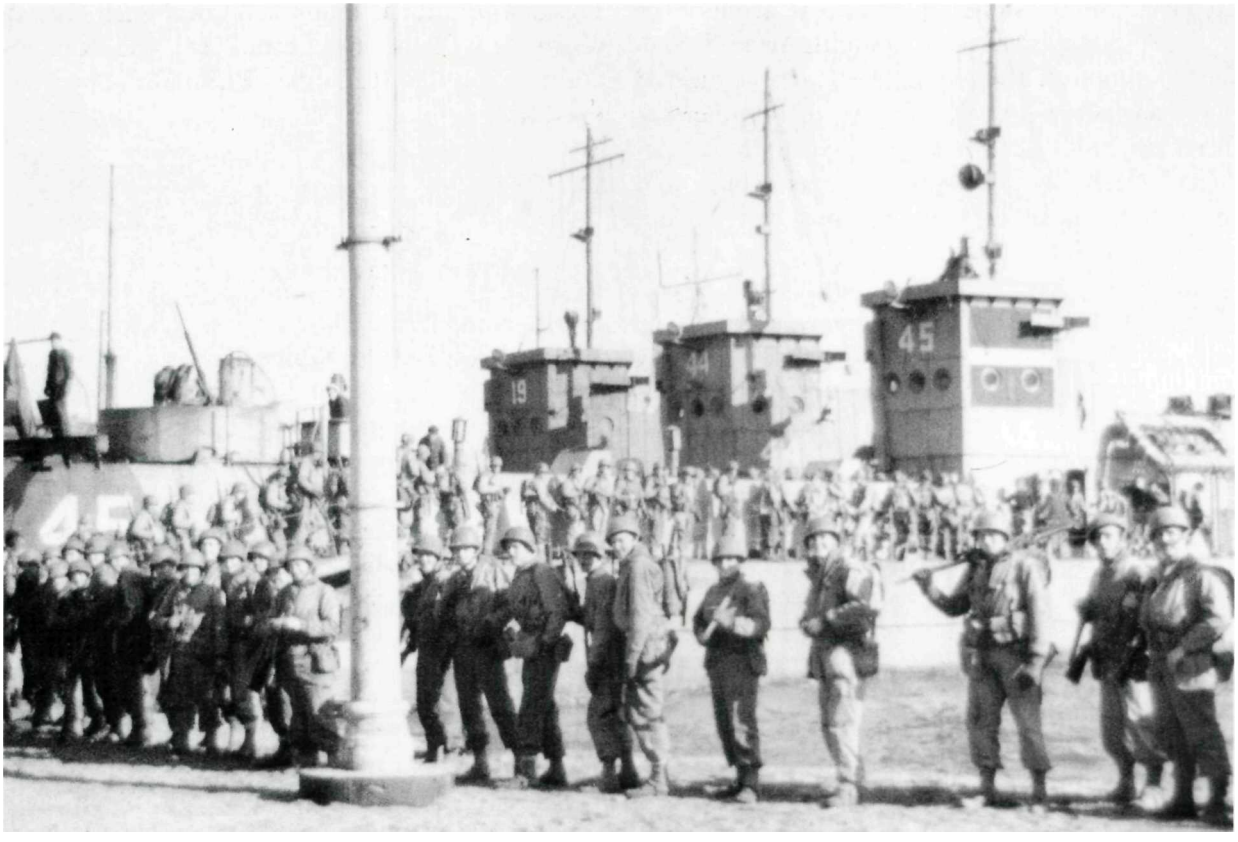
Rangers, and until recently, the 5th Rangers' XO, assumed command at the end of April. Late April found the unit taking part in amphibious assault exercises until it joined up with the 2nd Rangers in May.

Both the 2nd and 5th Rangers conducted rehearsals for the Normandy landings. On 6 May the Provisional Ranger Group was formed, commanded by Lt.Col. Rudder, who retained command of the 2nd Rangers. Attached to the 116th Inf. Regt., 45th Inf. Div., the Group was to control the two battalions during the landings.

The assault on Pointe du Hoc is considered to this day a classic Ranger action. Pointe du Hoc is a rocky feature jutting almost sheer up to 100 feet above sea level. Perched atop the cliffs was a battery of six German 155mm guns in a well fortified position; their ability to deliver flanking fire on both Omaha and Utah Beaches endangered the D-Day landings.

On 6 June 1944 Cos. D, E, and F, 2nd Rangers, under command of Lt.Col. Rudder, landed at the foot of Pointe du Hoc and scaled the cliffs under intense German fire. Gaining the cliffhead, they cleared the positions—only to find that the guns were not there. The unmanned guns were located by a patrol, in an inland position prepared to fire on the beaches, and were destroyed. The Rangers fought off persistent counterattacks throughout the next two days and nights. The remainder of the Ranger Group—5th Rangers and Cos. A, B, and C of the 2nd—landed on the western end of Omaha Beach. Given several intermediate objectives, their primary mission was to fight their way through to the force on Pointe du Hoc with elements of the 116th Inf. Regt.: this was accomplished on D-plus-2.

The 2nd Rangers conducted training, received replacements, and performed rear area security throughout July. During August the unit assaulted defensive positions in Brittany. September found them clearing the Crozon and La Conquet Peninsulas. Late September saw them moved to



The 3rd Ranger Bn. boards LCIs in preparation for its landing at Licata, Sicily, 9 July 1943. The unit scroll can be seen on some of the men's shoulders. (US Army)

Belgium and then to Luxemburg, where they conducted additional training during October. In November they were attached to the 28th Inf. Div. and fought in Germany's Huertgen Forest. Lt.Col. Rudder was promoted and took over command of 28th Div.'s 109th Inf. Regt.; Maj. George S. Williams took command of the 2nd Rangers prior to the German Ardennes Offensive, during which they conducted primarily defensive operations. Jan. 1945 found them training more replacements at Schmidthof, Germany. In February they were attached to the 102nd Cav. Gp., to be followed by the crossing of the Roer River in March. They now found themselves alternately attacking and defending towns. Security missions were assigned in April, and in May they moved into Czechoslovakia. The end of the war found the battalion at Dolreuth. The 2nd Rangers were reduced to zero strength in June; returned to the US, on paper; and inactivated on 23 Oct. 1945 at Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia.

After the Normandy landings the 5th Rangers were assigned security missions to prevent a German counter-landing, and trained replacements. In August and September they were involved in the seige of Brest, conducting assaults on German-held forts. During October and November the unit provided security for the Twelfth Army Group *HQ* in Belgium. In December they were attached to the 6th Cav. Gp. and used to clear towns. Attached to the 95th Inf. Div. in Jan. 1945, they conducted more security missions until attached to the 94th Inf. Div. in February.

From 23 to 27 Feb. the 5th Rangers executed the only true Ranger operation of their existence. Infiltrating through German lines from a 94th Inf. Div. Saar River bridgehead, the battalion moved three miles and established a roadblock on the Irsch-Zerf road, the main German supply route, on 25 February. The Rangers beat off several heavy

attacks and were subjected to intense artillery fire until relieved by elements of the 10th Armd. Div. in the afternoon of the 27th. The Rangers suffered about 90 casualties while inflicting 300 killed on the Germans, and taking over 300 prisoners.

In March 1945 the 5th Rangers rebuilt and trained in Luxemburg, subsequently carrying out security missions, guarding prisoners, and even establishing military governments in several German towns. In May they were attached to the 3rd Cav. Gp. and were used to capture—largely unopposed—bridges over the Danube River. The unit was at Ried, Austria when the war ended. It remained in Austria throughout June, when it was reduced to zero strength. It was returned, on paper, to the US and inactivated on 22 Oct. 1945 at Camp Miles Standish, Massachusetts.

Both the 2nd and 5th Rangers were credited with participation in five campaigns, one each with an amphibious assault. Both units were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation and the French *Croix de Guerre* for Pointe du Hoc. The 5th Rangers additionally received the PUC for the Zerf operation.

World War II: The Pacific & Asia

South-West Pacific

In early 1944 Lt.Gen. Walter Krueger, commanding Sixth Army, stated the need for a Ranger unit for use in the invasion of the Philippines. Lt.Col. Henry A. Mucci took command of the 98th Field Artillery Bn. in Apr. 1944, set aside its howitzers, and began an intensive training programme. Personnel not wishing to become Rangers were transferred out, while volunteers were assigned. The 6th Ranger Inf. Bn. was activated on 24 Sept. 1944 at Hollandia, New Guinea, the only Ranger battalion carrying the lineage of an earlier unit[1].

The 98th FA Bn.(75mm Howitzer, Pack) was activated on 13 Jan. 1941 at Ft. Lewis. Washington.

Three members of the 29th Ranger Bn. shove a Bangalore torpedo into barbed wire during an assault landing exercise in Scotland, Aug. 1943. (US Army)

The first landings to reconquer the Philippines were carried out on Leyte. The 6th Rangers assisted in securing three islands guarding the entrance to Leyte Gulf, through which the invasion fleet passed. On 17 Oct. 1944 Co. D and part of HQ Co. landed on Suluan Island, the bulk of the unit landing on Dinagat Island. On 18 Oct. Co. B and the rest of HQ Co. landed on Homonhon Island. They remained until 14 Nov., mopping up Japanese resistance, and then moved to Leyte.

The 6th Rangers now loaded up for the Luzon invasion, landing on 10/11 Jan. 1945, but acted only as guards for Sixth Army HQ. Two companies landed on Santiago Island to set up a radar station, while others conducted patrols into Luzon's mountains. Sixth Army soon began planning for the liberation of the prisoner of war camp near Cabanatuan, fearing the Japanese might move or execute the prisoners before their liberation. Lt.Col. Mucci would lead the rescue force consisting of Co. C, 2nd Platoon of Co. F, and two Alamo Scout

***Left*—The base of Pointe du Hoc, 8 June 1944, with reinforcements moving to the cliff top. A toggle climbing rope and lightweight extension ladder are in place. (US Army)**

***Below*—2nd Ranger Bn. command post beside an AA gun emplacement, Pointe du Hoc, 6 June 1944. (US Army)**

teams; Filipino guerrillas would assist. The Alamo Scouts placed the Pangatian PW Camp under surveillance while the Rangers conducted a 29-mile approach march through enemy territory, linking up with the Scouts. At dusk on 30 Jan. the Rangers attacked the camp, guarded by about 70 Japanese and with another 150 resting there while on their way to the front. Attacking through the main gate, the 121 raiders killed almost all of the Japanese, freed 513 PWs and moved them back to friendly lines: Ranger losses were two killed and ten wounded. Guerrillas blocking Japanese counter-attacks killed almost a battalion without suffering any losses. The Cabanatuan raid is considered one of the classic Ranger operations of World War II.

The 6th Rangers, using hit-and-run tactics, cleared enemy positions in the mountains, located strongpoints and supply routes, and executed harassing attacks for the remainder of the Luzon campaign. One company was detached in April and used to block japanese attempting to withdraw from eastern Luzon. In May another was sent to northern Luzon, where it captured the Aparri airfield. Elements, however, were still used to guard Sixth Army HQ. On 15 Sept. the 6th Rangers departed for Japan where they conducted occupation duties. The battalion was inactivated in Kyoto, Japan on 20 Dec. 1945. The 6th Rangers participated in three campaigns, being credited with one amphibious assault. Co. C and 2nd Platoon of Co. F were both awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for the Cabanatuan rescue. The entire battalion was awarded the Philippine PUC.

In mid-1945 it was planned for personnel who had served only a short time in the 2nd and 5th Rangers (primarily those assigned after Normandy) to be shipped to the Philippines and combined with the short-serving members of the 6th Rangers, which was to have been disbanded if the war continued. The old Ranger hands of all three battalions were to return to the US and serve

8 July 1944: relieved by the 5th Rangers and 116th Infantry, a 2nd Bn. Ranger on Pointe du Hoc can be seen wearing the orange diamond with a black '2' on his helmet. The arrow identifies Lt.Col. James Rudder. (US Army)

Near Rhurberg, Germany, members of Co. C, 2nd Ranger Bn. prepare to depart on a combat patrol, March 1945. They wear the M1941 field jacket, wool trousers, and assorted footwear: rubber overshoes, shoepacs, and combat boots. (US Army)

as infantry instructors. The short-service Rangers were to be reinforced with volunteers and formed into the 7th Ranger Inf. Bn., to participate in the invasion of Japan. This, of course, never came to pass and the unit was never formed (though its scroll is sometimes seen in insignia catalogues).

Between July and December 1943 a small reconnaissance unit, the Amphibious Scouts, consisting of US armed forces and Australian Army personnel, conducted several successful missions into New Britain. Lt.Gen. Krueger realised the value of such a unit, and directed the formation of the Alamo Scouts Training Center (ASTC) on 28 Nov. 1943[1]. Established on Fergusson Island, its purpose was to 'train selected volunteers in reconnaissance and raider work'. Volunteers from Sixth Army combat units were subjected to a gruelling six-week course. Most graduates were returned to their units to pass on their new skills. However, a total of 21 officers and 117 enlisted men were retained for assignment to the Alamo Scouts, a special unit directly under Sixth Army G2, for the conduct of reconnaissance missions. Strength at any one time was usually 70 troops. The Alamo Scouts may be considered the US Army's first 'LRRPs'. The ASTC itself continued to operate into 1945, but was relocated to a total of five different sites on New Guinea, Leyte, and Luzon.

The Scouts conducted over 80 missions throughout the South-West Pacific. While reconnaissance was their principal task, the Scouts did execute a small number of combat actions, and were also involved in two PW camp rescue raids. The ten Scout teams (each of one officer and five or six enlisted men) never lost a single man. The unit was disbanded at Kyoto, Japan in Nov. 1945 after accompanying the 6th Rangers there.

Another Ranger-type unit which served in the South-West Pacific was the 5217th Recon. Bn., Special; activated on 8 Oct. 1942 at Camp Tabragalba, Australia, it began to form on 25 Aug.

[1]The operational elements of Sixth Army were codenamed Alamo Force. Gen. Krueger was from San Antonio, Texas, site of the Alamo; hence the title Alamo Scouts.

6th Bn. Rangers and Filipino guerrillas after the Pangatian PW Camp rescue missions, Feb. 1945. All are wearing the herringbone tropical fatigues. (US Army)

entirely of volunteers from the 1st and 2nd Filipino Inf. Regts. (US Army units). It was tasked to collect intelligence in the occupied Philippines, accomplished by infiltrating recon. teams. Some personnel were initially parachute-trained, but all insertions were by seaplane and submarine. It moved to Hollandia, New Guinea on 21 Nov. 1942. The 5217th and the similar 5218th Recon. Co. (Prov.) were combined and re-designated the 1st Recon. Bn., Special on 20 Nov. 1944. Operating under the Philippine Regional Section of US Army Forces, Far East, the 400-plus man unit executed dozens of behind-the-lines reconnaissance and liaison missions with guerrilla forces on Leyte and Luzon. It and its supporting 978th Signal Service Co. were disbanded in Manila on 15 Aug. 1945. All members were awarded the Bronze Star, but the unit itself was credited only with campaign participation in New Guinea, and received none for the Philippines.

Burma

In 1943 British forces in India developed the long range penetration (LRP) unit concept, known as the 'Chindits'. The task of the Chindits, operating in columns (half-battalions), was to infiltrate by air and land behind Japanese lines in Burma. Once there, supported by air resupply, they conducted operations to attack the enemy in his rear areas. LRP operations, in effect, eliminated frontlines. While effective, the operations took a heavy toll of troops due to disease, arduous living conditions, and brutal close combat.

While the US Army Air Force provided much of the Chindits' critical air support, the US was pressed to introduce ground combat troops into the campaign to regain Burma and open the Ledo and Burma Roads, so as to provide a land link with China. In July 1943 it was directed that a US LRP group, initially known only as GALAHAD, be formed in India in early November; its formation was ordered by the War Department on 31 August. The troops were to be volunteers in high physical condition and jungle trained, drawn from units in the Caribbean, Army Ground Forces (continental US), and South and South-West Pacific, with 1,000

being provided by each area. The three groups were shipped to India, arriving in Bombay on 31 Oct.; the unit moved first to Deolali and then to Deogarh, where it conducted intensive training with British LRP units. Lt.Col. Charles N. Hunter was the acting commander until the arrival of Brig.Gen. Frank M. Merrill. On 1 Jan. 1944 GALAHAD was redesignated the 5307th Composite Regt. (Prov.): the next day the brigade-sized force was re-designated 'Unit'. It consisted of three battalions with each divided into two combat teams. Its air resupply was to be handled by a Staging Area Detachment at Dinjan, India. Transport of the unit's supplies and equipment was accomplished by 700 mules and horses of two Quartermaster pack troops. Initially the 5307th was under the control of the British South-East Asia Command, but upon Gen. Stillwell's insistence it was placed under his Northern Combat Area Command. The unit departed India for Ningbyen, Burma at the end of January, arriving by 21 Feb. (marching the last 150 miles). It was here that a war correspondent originated the title 'Merrill's Marauders'.

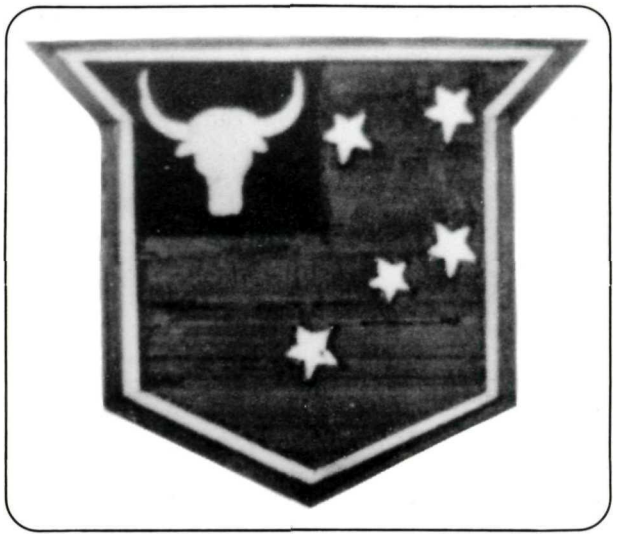
The Marauders' first mission began on 24 Feb. when they conducted an outflanking sweep, in support of two Chinese divisions, to cut off the retreating Japanese. Linking up with the Chinese at Walawbum on 4 March, the unit achieved only limited success, as the slow-moving Chinese allowed many Japanese to escape. The next operation, 11-29 March, called for the 1st Bn. to parallel the Kamaing Road to cut off retreating Japanese at Shaduzap. The battalion then rushed to Nhpum Ga to assist the 3rd Bn. with the relief of the surrounded 2nd. The 2nd and 3rd Bns. had executed a wider sweep to the east, hooking to the

Ten of the 14 Alamo Scouts who participated in the Pangatian PW Camp mission pose in front of Sixth Army HQ at Dagupan near the Lingayen Gulf. They are armed with M1 rifles, M1A1 carbines, M (SMGs, and M1911A1 pistols. (US Army via Lcs Huges)

south of Shaduzap to cut off the Japanese at Inkagahtawng on 23 March. The Japanese counterattacked the next day, however, forcing the two battalions to withdraw along their approach route. The 2nd Bn. set up a defence at Nhpum Ga on 28 March while the 3rd moved north to Hsamshingyang. On 31 March the Japanese surrounded the 2nd Bn., which suffered heavily. The 3rd Bn. attacked on 4 April in an attempt to lift the siege, but resistance was stiff. Attacks continued, with the 1st Bn. arriving on 8 April to join in the attacks, breaking the siege the next day.

The 5307th moved to Hsamshingyang for a well-deserved rest. On 27 April orders were received for the Marauders to secure Myitkyina and its critical airfield just north of the Ledo Road. The 5307th was reinforced by Chinese forces and Kachin Ranger units[1]. The operation began on 28 April, with the units following different routes and meeting opposition throughout their march. The first assaults on Myitkyina on 17 May met very heavy resistance. The action soon developed into a siege, and Myitkyina did not fall until 3 Aug., by which time the Marauders had been devastated. The original 2,830 Marauders had been reduced to 1,310 by the time they even reached Myitkyina, due to action, disease, exhaustion, and insufficient diet; by 4 June the 5307th had lost 2,394 killed, wounded, missing, and sick since beginning operations in February. Gen. Merrill was evacuated on 19 May due to a heart attack; Col. John E. McGammon replaced him, but was soon evacuated himself. Col. Hunter again took over. The few remaining Marauders were evacuated to Margherita, a rest area; returned convalescents brought the unit back to 1,200 troops. The 5307th was inactivated on 10 Aug. 1944, and was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for Myitkyina.

On 10 Aug. 1944 the 475th Inf. Regt. (LRP, Special), carrying the lineage of the 5307th, was activated at Myitkyina; many of the surviving 1st Bn. Marauders were incorporated into the unit. The 475th was one of two regiments making up the 5332nd Brigade (Prov.), also known as 'MARS Task Force', which was activated in India on 26 July 1944 with the mission of completing the opening of the Burma Road:



The unofficial shoulder patch of the 5217th (later 1st) Recon. Bn., Special. Dark blue felt background, inner yellow border and carabao head, red canton, and white stars. These were made in Australia and approved for local wear by US Army Forces, Far East. They are so rare that only a reproduction can be depicted. (Robert Capistrano).

HQ 5332nd Bde. (Prov.)
124th Cav. Regt. (LRP, Spl.)[2]
613th FA Bn. (75mm How., Pack)
49th Portable Surgical Hospital
37th, 252nd, 253rd QM Pack Troops
7th Chinese Animal Trans. Co. (½)
475th Inf. Regt. (LRP, Spl.)
612th FA Bn. (75mm How., Pack)
44th Portable Surgical Hospital
31st, 33rd, 35th QM Pack Troops
7th Chinese Animal Trans. Co. (½)
1st Chinese Inf. Regt. (Sep.)
42nd Portable Surgical Hospital (US)
Co. B, 13th Mountain Medical Bn.
18th Veterinary Evac Hospital.
511th Medical Collecting Co.

In late Nov. 1944 the MARS Task Force moved south along the Ledo Road from Myitkyina. In December the 475th broke Japanese resistance in the Tonkwa area. The Force set out east for the Burma Road at the beginning of Jan. 1945; the road

'The Kachin (also known as Jingpawi) Rangers were a local Burmese tribal force raised by the OSS in 1942 to conduct guerrilla operations behind Japanese lines.

[2]The 124th Cav. Regt., Texas National Guard, was formed in 1929. It was on Mexican border patrol until moved to Ft. Riley. Kansas in May 1944; dismounted; sent to India in August; and reorganised as an I,RP unit. Its lineage is carried today by the 49th Armd. Div.'s 1st Squadron, 124th Cav.

'Marsmen' of 2nd Bn., 475th Inf. Regt. dig in on Loi-Kang Ridge after driving the Japanese off; Burma, Jan. 1945. (US Army)

was reached in the Namhpakka area, and several major battles were fought until early February. The 'Marsmen' then moved south to Lashio, where they remained until March; then moved by air to southern China. The Force was relieved from the India-Burma Theater and re-assigned to the Chinese Combat Command (Prov.). The unit's role changed drastically when it was used to advise, train, and equip 36 US-sponsored Chinese divisions. The 475th reorganised into 36 'US Combat Sections'—liaison teams of 25 officers and 50 enlisted men each: three were nominally assigned to each of the 475th's 12 companies for administrative purposes, and attached to Chinese divisions. The 475th Inf. Regt. was inactivated in China on 1 July 1945.

The 475th was redesignated the 75th on 21 June 1954. It was reactivated on 20 Nov. on Okinawa, utilising the assets of the 29th Inf. Regt. stationed there. It formed the bulk of the 75th Regt'l. Combat Team, with the addition of the 612th FA Bn., tasked as a Pacific strategic reserve force. It was inactivated on 21 March 1956, but was destined to play a further role with the Rangers of the future.

* * *

The end of World War II saw an end of Ranger and Ranger-type units. The post-war Army saw no need for special operation forces. Ranger and similar units had only been considered as special purpose forces needed to fill temporary and unique requirements. (As always, such notions were proven groundless by the march of actual events.) There was a proposal for an 'Airborne Recon. Company' in 1946, changed to a 'Ranger Group' in 1948, but this was never formed.

Troop E, 2nd Squadron, 124th Cav. Regt. of the MARS Task Force moves through Man Ning, Burma, Jan. 1945. The dogs are said to have been locally 'procured' and were used at night as sentries. (US Army)

The Korean War

When North Korean forces poured across the 38th Parallel on 25 June 1950, they employed some of their many infantry regiments not as conventional assault formations, but as infiltrators through South Korean lines to seize objectives in the rear. Several US commanders saw the value of a similar capability, and Korea's mountainous terrain was thought to be ideal for infiltrating small raider units. Gen. J. Lawton Collins, Army Chief of Staff, after visiting Korea, issued a directive on 29 Aug. 1950 recommending the formation of 'Marauder Companies'. One company was to be attached to each division to conduct through-the-lines infiltration to attack headquarters, communications, and combat support units. Army G3 recommended they be designated 'Airborne Ranger Companies', and action was immediately taken to implement their formation. Each was to consist of five officers and 107 enlisted men organised into a small HQ and three rifle platoons of three squads each. A call for volunteers went out in mid-September to the 11th and 82nd Airborne Divs., as volunteers were required to be airborne-qualified. Col. John G. Van Houton was chosen to organise the Ranger Training Center (Airborne) at Ft. Benning, Georgia, activated on 29 Sept. 1950.

The first six-week course began on 2 Oct., concentrating on raid and sabotage tactics, forced marches, demolitions, US and enemy weapons, land navigation, and directing artillery and air support. The 1st-4th Ranger Inf. Cos. (Airborne) graduated on 13 November. The 1st, 2nd, and 4th immediately prepared for movement to Korea, while the 3rd remained to assist with the second cycle. The 2nd Co. (initially designated the 4th) was an all-black unit. The 5th-8th Cos. completed the second cycle (now eight weeks long) in Jan. 1951, followed by four weeks of cold weather and mountain warfare training at Camp Carson, Colorado. Some units conducted additional training at Eglin Field, Florida. The 3rd, 5th, and 8th Cos. were shipped to Korea; the 6th went to West Germany, where it was assigned to Seventh Army

Korean War Era Ranger Infantry Companies (Airborne)

Ranger Company	*Activation Date*	*Subordination*	*Duty Station*	*Inactivation Date*	*Inactivation Station*
1st	28 Oct. 50	2nd Inf. Div.	Korea	1 Aug. 51	Chaun-ni, Korea
2nd	28 Oct. 50	7th Inf. Div. & 187th ARCT	Korea	1 Aug. 51	Chiach'on-ni, Korea
3rd	28 Oct. 50	3rd Inf. Div. & I Corps	Korea	1 Aug. 51	Ch'orwan, Korea
4th	28 Oct. 50	1st Cav. Div.*	Korea	1 Aug. 51	Chunchon, Korea
5th	20 Nov. 50	25th Inf. Div. & I Corps	Korea	1 Aug. 51	Chajang-ni, Korea
6th	20 Nov. 50	Seventh Army	Kitzingen, West Germany	1 Dec. 51	Kitzingen, West Germany
7th	20 Nov. 50	Ranger Training Command	Ft. Benning, Georgia	5 Nov. 51	Ft. Benning, Georgia
8th	20 Nov. 50	24th Inf. Div. & IX Corps	Korea	1 Aug. 51	Sanyang-ni, Korea
9th	5 Jan. 51	Third Army	Ft. Benning, Georgia	5 Nov. 51	Ft. Benning, Georgia
10th	5 Jan. 51	45th Inf. Div.	Camp Polk, Louisiana	15 Oct. 51	Camp Crawford, Japan
11th	5 Jan. 51	40th Inf. Div.	Camp Cooke, California	21 Sep. 51	Camp Matsushima, Japan
12th	1 Feb. 51	Fifth Army	Camp Atterbury, Indiana	27 Oct. 51	Camp Atterbury, Indiana
13th	1 Feb. 51	Second Army	Camp Pickett, Virginia	15 Oct. 51	Camp Pickett, Virginia
14th	27 Feb. 51	4th Inf. Div.	Camp Carson, Colorado	27 Oct. 51	Camp Carson, Colorado
15th	27 Feb. 51	Third Army	Ft. Benning, Georgia	5 Nov. 51	Ft. Benning, Georgia
8213th AU (Ranger)	25 Aug. 50	25th Inf. Div. & IX Corps	Korea	28 Mar. 51	Chajong-ni, Korea
8245th AU (Raider)	12 Nov. 50	3rd Inf. Div. & 8227th Army Unit	Korea	1 Apr. 51	Sollim, Korea

•The 4th was a 'floater' and sometimes attached to the 187th Abn. Regt'l. Combat Team, 1st Marine Div., IX Corps.

and acted primarily as 'aggressors'. The 7th Co. remained at Ft. Benning as a replacement training unit and to assist the Ranger Training Command.

(There was, however, an even earlier Korean War Ranger unit. The 8213th Army Unit—Eighth Army Ranger Co. was activated in Aug. 1950 at Camp Drake, Japan. This 77-man unit was formed of mainly airborne volunteers from combat units stationed in Japan. It was sent to Korea on 12 Oct. and attached to IX Corps, and then to the 25th Inf. Div., with which it took part in a number of actions including the drive to the Yalu River, before being inactivated in March 1951.)

The six Ranger companies operating in Korea were assigned to Eighth Army, but attached primarily to divisions, and sometimes to corps HQs and other units. They executed raids, ambushes, and reconnaissance patrols, led assaults, and were employed as regimental reserves to conduct counterattacks. Often misused and lacking sufficient logistical support, they were sometimes not too highly thought of by their higher headquarters. Misuse cost some companies up to 90 per cent losses. Replacements, however, were usually available, both from the US and from among volunteers from their parent divisions.

The 2nd and 4th Ranger Cos. were attached to the 187th Airborne Regt'l. Combat Team on 3 March 1951. They and the 187th executed a combat jump on 23 March near Munsan-ni in an effort to cut off retreating North Korean forces. The Ranger companies' specific mission was to strike south-east from the drop zone and take the town of Munsan-ni. They were re-attached to their parent divisions on 4 April.

The seven later Ranger companies were sent to various locations. The 9th and 15th remained at Ft. Benning and were assigned to Third Army. The

10th and 11th were made up of National Guardsmen from the 45th (Oklahoma) and 40th (California) Inf. Divs. respectively: both were inactivated in Japan while the divisions were *en route* to Korea. The 12th was assigned to Fifth Army and the 13th to Second Army, both in the US. The 14th was attached to the 4th Inf. Div., also in the US.

Another Ranger-type unit which operated in Korea was the 8245th Army Unit—Eighth Army Raider Co., active from Nov. 1950 to April 1951. It was attached to the 3rd Inf. Div. until 26 Dec. and then placed under the 8227th Army Unit—Special Activities Group. Three provisional Ranger companies were also formed. The 2nd Armd. Div. Prov. Ranger Co. was formed in 1951, and the 1st Armd. Div. Prov. Ranger Co. in 1952, both at Ft. Hood, Texas (these may in fact have been the same unit). The third was the 28th Inf. Div. Ranger Co. (Prov.) at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, in 1951-52.

Lack of logistical support (the companies relied on their parent divisions for everything from cooks to trucks), and the problems faced by a mere captain CO working with the divisional staff, caused some staff officers to feel that a return to the battalion organisation might prove more effective. This was proposed, but was not to take place. Two short-lived Ranger companies (A and B) were formed at Ft. Benning before the end of the war, and these may have been the intended beginnings of a battalion (or may have been only training units).

Due to many perceived and some real problems, it was directed in July 1951 that all Ranger companies be inactivated. Other reasons given for their disbanding were the fact that non-Oriental troops faced difficulties when operating behind enemy lines; and that the static nature which the war increasingly took on limited their utility. Additionally, the 'manning slots' were to be used for the formation of Special Forces. The companies in Korea were all inactivated on 1 Aug. 1951; their airborne-qualified personnel were transferred to the 187th ARCT, and non-airborne personnel were

Troops of the 3rd Ranger Company adjust their equipment prior to undertaking a dawn patrol across the Imjin River in Korea, April 1951. They are armed with an M1918A2 BAR, M1 rifles, and M2 carbines. The Ranger on the extreme right has two M15 white phosphorus grenades. Their insignia is the RANGER - AIRBORNE double tab over a 3d Inf. Div. patch. The small 'goldenlite' rank stripes can also be seen. (US Army)

3d Ranger Company troops secure cases of grenades on an M24 light tank, April 1951. The Ranger in the foreground is wearing the 3d Ranger Bn. scroll as a combat patch. (US Army)

transferred to infantry regiments of the companies' parent divisions. The other companies were inactivated in Sept.-Dec. 1951.

The Rangers were not to die out, however, as they had after World War II. The Ranger Training Command was inactivated on 17 Oct. 1951; but its place was taken by the Ranger Department, formed on 10 Oct., with the task of turning out Ranger-qualified junior officers and NCOs, who returned to their units to pass on Ranger skills.

Enter the LRRPs

In the late 1950s the NATO nations began to develop the Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) concept. They were greatly influenced by the British Special Air Service (SAS) concept of small independently operating teams, or 'Patrols'[1].

LRRPs conduct *passive,* deep penetration (up to 150km) intelligence collection missions for corps or higher HQs. Patrols are infiltrated through enemy lines by air, ground, or water or by conducting stay-behind operations, i.e. permitting enemy forces to overrun their areas while remaining concealed. Once inserted, the Patrols establish well-concealed observation posts placing enemy routes under surveillance and reporting their movements. Other LRRP missions include point, area, and route reconnaissance. Information is reported using AM single-sideband radios in conjunction with burst transmission devices. These prevent detection by enemy radio direction-finders, as they permit the transmission of a normal 12-15 words-per-minute manual Morse code message in a matter of seconds. The messages are received by base radio stations within friendly territory, and are re-transmitted to the LRRP unit's operations centre and forwarded to the supported higher HQ, where the information is analysed and processed for action.

Intelligence produced is used to monitor the

[1]To differentiate from the action 'to patrol'. Patrol is capitalised when referring to a sub-unit.

movements of enemy forces, thus alerting friendly forces of principal points of attack and strengths as well as supply routes; and to locate enemy command, control and communications facilities, logistical elements, air defence systems, artillery and missile sites, and troop staging/assembly areas. This provides target acquisition for friendly artillery (if in range) and air strikes.

It must be emphasised that LRRPs do *not* conduct direct action missions. Their role is to collect and report information while undertaking extreme measures to remain undetected by the enemy and civilians. Within the US Army, however, this has often been forgotten, as an attitude persists that any special operations unit obviously cuts throats and blows up bridges . . .

The first US Army LRRP[1] units were small test units formed in about 1958. The first two official units were the 3779 and 3780 US Army LRRP Cos. (Airborne), activated in West Germany on 15.July 1961 at Wildflecken and Nellingen Training Areas. Assigned to Seventh Army, they were attached to V and VII Corps respectively, and were generally known as the V and VII Corps LRRP Companies. Commanded by majors, each consisted of an HQ, two patrol platoons each with eight four-man Patrols, and a communications platoon. Volunteers came from throughout Seventh Army, but most were provided by the 504th and 505th Airborne Inf., 8th Inf. Div. The V Corps LRRP Co. was later moved near Frankfurt.

Both companies were inactivated on 15 May 1965 and their assets used to form Co. D (LRP), 17th Inf. and Co. C (LRP), 58th Infantry. They were relocated to the US in 1968 as part of troop reduction agreements with the Soviets; D-17 was moved to Ft. Benning, and C-58 first to Ft. Riley, Kansas, and then to Ft. Carson, Colorado in 1969. Both were still attached to V and VII Corps, to be

[1]The acronym LRRP is used by NATO in a generic sense. The US Army used LRP Long Range Patrol to designate these units alter 1964.

A former member of the 8th Ranger Company, now assigned to the 187th ARCT, takes a break while training 1st Cavalry Div. troops in air delivery techniques; Korea, Jan. 1952. He wears his former company scroll as a combat patch. (O. F. Willis)

Regular Army Long Range Patrol Companies/Detachments and Ranger Companies

LRPCo./Det	*Served*	*Subordination*
Co. D, 17th Inf.	15 May 67–21 Fob. 69	V Corps
Co. C, 58th Inf.	15 May 67–10 Feb. 69	VII Corps
Co. E, 20th Inf.	25 Sept. 67–1 Feb. 69	I Field Force
Co. F, 51st Inf.	25 Sept. 67–26 Dec.68	199th Inf, Bde. (Lt) (Sep.)
Co. E. 50th Inf.	20 Dec. 67–1 Feb. 69	9th Inf. Div.
Co. F. 50th Inf.	20 Dec. 67–1 Feb. 69	25th Inf. Div.
Co. E, 51st Inf.	12 Dec. 68–1 Feb. 69	AMERICAL Div. (23d Inf. Div.)
Co. E, 52d Inf.	20 Dec. 67–1 Feb. 6g	1st Cav. Div. (AM)
Co. F, 52d Inf.	20 Dec. 67–1 Feb. 69	1st Inf. Div.
Co. E, 58th Inf.	20 Dec. 67–1 Feb. 69	4th Inf. Div.
Co. F, 58th Inf.	10 Jan. 68–1 Feb. 69	101st Abn. Div. (AM--Aug 68)
Co. E, 30th Inf. (Rifle Co.–16 Jan. 69)	23 Aug. 66–1 July 78	Aviation Center & School
70th Inf. Dot.	19 Dec. 67–15 Jan. 68	nth Inf. Bde. (Lt.) (Sep.)
71st Inf. Del.	20 Dec. 67–1 Feb. 69	199th Inf. Bde. (Lt.) (Sep.)
74th Inf. Del.	20 Dec. 67–1 Feb. 69	173d Abn. Bde. (Sep.)
78th Inf. Del.	15 Dec. 68–1 Feb. 69	US Army, Vietnam
79th Inf. Det.	15 Dec. 68–1 Feb. 69	US Army, Vietnam

Assets used to form:

Ranger Co.	*Served*	*Subordination*
Co. A. 75th Inf.	21 Feb.69–[9 Dec. 74	197th Inf. Bde. (Sep.) & 1st Cav. Div.
Co. B. 75th Inf.	10Feb.69–1 Nov. 74	5th Inf. Div. (Mech.)
Co. C, 75th Inf.	1 Feb.69–25 Oct. 71	I Field Force-
Co. D, 75th Inf.	20 Nov. 69–10 Apr. 70	II Field Force
Co. E. 75th Inf.	1 Feb.69–23 Aug. 69	9th Inf. Div.
Co. E, 75th Inf. (second tour)	1 Oct. 69–12 Oct. 70	3d Bde. (Sep.), 9th Inf Div.
Co. F. 75th Inf.	1 Feb. 69–15 Mar. 71	25th Inf Div.
Co. G, 7th Inf.	1 Feb.69–1 Oct. 71	AMERICAL Div. (23d Inf. Div.)
Co. H. 75th Inf.	1 Feb. 69–15 Aug. 72	1st Cav. Div. (AM)
Co. I, 75th Inf.	1 Inf).Div.–7 Apr. 70	1st Inf. Div.
Co. K, 75th Inf.	1Apr.70–10 Dec. 70	4th Inf. Div.
Co. I., 75th Inf.	1 Feb. 69–26 Dec. 70	101st Abn. Div. (AM)
Co. C. 509th Inf. (Pathfinder)	1 July 78–present	Avn. C & S/ 101st Abn. Div. (Air Aslt.)
Inactivated prior to 11th Inf. Bde's assignment to AMERICAL Div.		
Co. M, 75th Inf.	1 Feb.69–12 Oct. 70	199th Inf Bde. (Lt.) (Sep).
Co. N, 75th Inf.	1 Feb.69–25 Aug. 71	173d Abn.Bde. (Abn)
Co. N. 75th Inf	1 Feb. 69–20 Nov. 69	3d Bde., 82d Abn.Div.
Co. O, 75th Inf. (second tour)	4 Aug. 70–29 Sept.72	US Army, Alaska
Co. P, 75th Inf.	1 Feb.69–31 Aug. 71	1st Bde., 5th Inf. Div. (Mech.)

Note: Co. E, (LRP) 21st Inf. was activated on paper but never formed--carried at zero strength at Ft. Benning, 1968.

returned in the event of hostilities. It was in the US, removed from the NATO environment and contact with the LRRP community, that they began to lose touch with the actual LRRP role. This was also influenced by events in Vietnam. Co. E (LRP), 30th Inf. was activated at Ft. Rucker, Alabama in 1966. Assigned to the Aviation Center and School, it was used to provide aggressors for student pilot evasion and escape training, 'hot' landing zones, and honour guards. Having never performed in an LRRP role, it was reorganised as a modified airborne rifle company in 1969.

The first Army National Guard (ARNG) LRRP units, Cos. D and E (LRP), 151st Inf., were formed in 1967 in Indiana. Cos. E and F (LRP), 425th Inf. in Michigan followed in 1968. Both states' units were formed using the assets of disbanded ARNG airborne infantry battalions.

The only unit to be designated Ranger during this period was the Prov. Ranger Platoon, 1st Battle Group (Airborne), 505th Inf., 8th Inf. Div.: this 180-man 'platoon' existed from 1959 to 1961.

Vietnam

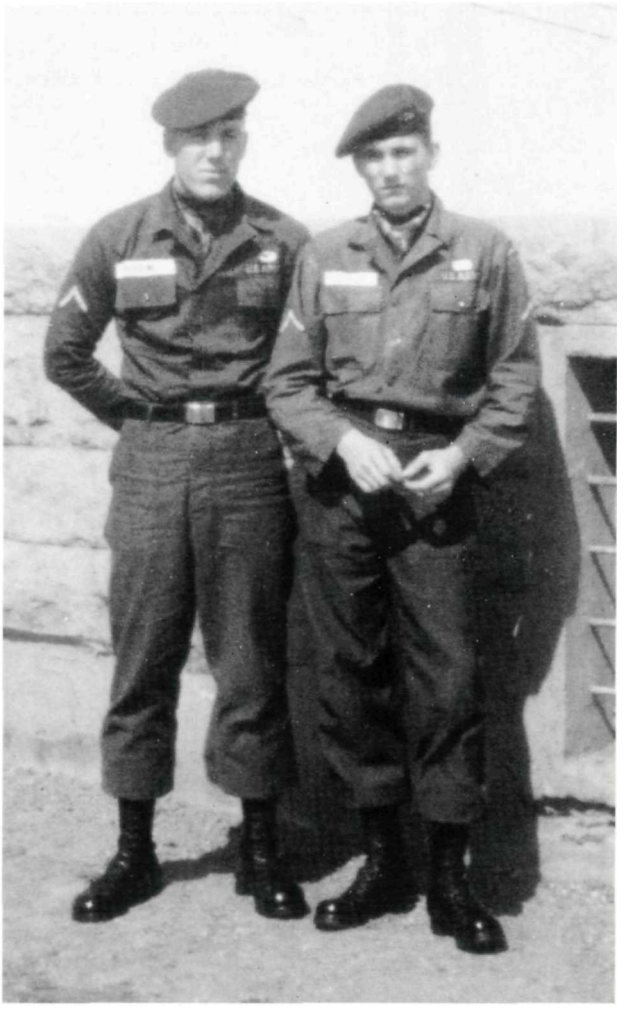
After the first major combat unit deployments to Vietnam in 1965, the Army found itself involved in

a war for which it was ill-suited, having been trained and equipped for European and Middle Eastern scenarios. Due to the elusive nature of the enemy and the concealment provided by the jungle, a more effective means was needed to locate him. It was not long before provisional LRRP units, usually no larger than platoon size, began to be formed by divisions and separate brigades. Examples of these are the 173rd Airborne Bde.'s LRRP Platoon and the 196th Inf. Bde.'s Detachment A (LRP) (Provisional).

In late 1967 approval for the activation of authorised LRP units was finally granted. Each field force (equivalent to a corps) and division had an Infantry Company (LRP) attached, while separate brigades received an Infantry Detachment (LRP). Each company had an HQ, two patrol platoons with eight six-man Patrols, a total of 118 troops: two companies, E-20 and F-51, had four platoons and 230 troops. Each detachment, having 61 troops, was basically a patrol platoon with a beefed-up HQ. Communications platoons were not assigned, as only short-range voice radios were used. The first of ten companies and five detachments were activated, usually using the assets of existing provisional LRRP units, in late 1967. Between them they earned one Presidential Unit Citation, three Valorous Unit Commendations, two Meritorious Unit Commendations, 11 Vietnamese Gallantry Cross Unit Citations, and six Vietnamese Civil Actions Unit Citations

The LRP units had no parent regiment or common historical connection. Since Special Forces now carried the past Ranger lineages[1], the 75th Inf., with the lineage and honours of Merrill's Marauders and the 475th Inf. Regt., was chosen to provide the lineage of the Army's LRRPs. On 1 Feb. 1969 all Regular Army LRP units were reassigned to the 75th Inf., which had no 'regimental' HQ . ARNG LRP companies retained their traditional designations. Additionally, all LRP units were redesignated 'Ranger', while retaining the LRRP mission. In order to accomplish this, all Regular Army LRP companies and detachments were merely redesignated as companies of the 75th Infantry.

[1]On 15 April 1960, the lineages and honours of the 1st (6th Ranger Bns., 1st Special Service Force, the 1st—15th Ranger Cos. were consolidated and granted to SF which had been without a lineage since its formation in 1952.



Two Patrol members of the V Corps LRRP Company, Gibbs Kasern, Frankfurt, Germany, July 1963. They wear OG-107 fatigues with camouflage scarves (cut from old cargo parachutes) and French-made maroon berets. Their unofficial crest was worn on the beret. (Mike Harding)

The former detachments still had 61 troops each. C-75 had 230, D- and H-75 had 198, and all others had 118 troops; E-75 had only 61 troops during its second tour. Two other LRRP companies served in Vietnam. D-151, Indiana ARNG, was the only Reserve Component infantry unit to serve there. It was Federalised on 13 May 1968, trained at Ft. Benning, and shipped to Vietnam on 29 Dec, where it was attached to II Field Force until returned home on 20 Dec. 1969. There was also the II Field Force, Vietnam LRP Co. (Prov.), briefly active in 1968/69 and disbanded after D-151 arrived.

While the principal mission of LRRPs in Vietnam was to locate and report enemy forces in

A Scout of Co. F (LRP), 58th Inf. (101st Airborne Div.) patrols near Camp Eagle, 1968. He wears tigerstripes with a 'drive-on' rag—an OG towel. On his belt are M1956 ammo pouches, a 1-quart canteen carrier used for M16A1 magazines, and a 2-quart canteen. (US Army)

Student Recon. Team members of the MACV Recondo School off-load from a UH-1H 'Huey' during their three-day graduation patrol on Hon Tra Island, Bay of Nha Trang, Dec. 1969. They are armed with M16A1 and AK-47 rifles. (US Army)

order for manoeuvre battalions to engage them, and surveillance and target acquisition for artillery and air strikes, they were all too often used for other tasks: small raids, ambushes, point security, and PW snatches. The minor direct action role, for which they were ill-suited and which sometimes proved disastrous, began to cloud the true role of LRRPs, a problem persisting to this day.

In order to train LRP unit members, the 5th SF Gp. established the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam Recondo School at Na Trang on 15 Sept. 1966[1]. The three-week course taught US and allied troops Vietnam-oriented LRRP techniques. The Infantry School conducted a six-week LRP Course at Ft. Benning as well. Few LRP/Rangcr unit members were actually graduates of the Ranger Course; most of the troops were volunteers from within the unit's parent division/brigade. While the units were considered airborne, in actuality many of the personnel were non-jumpers.

In the US, D-17 and C-58 were redesignated A- and B-75 in 1969. A-75 was placed under Third Army and attached to the 197th Inf. Bde. and B-75 was assigned to Fifth Army (Sixth Army in 1972). Both were still slated for Germany. A year later A-75 was relocated to Ft. Hood, Texas, assigned to Fourth Army, attached to III Corps, and later to the 1st Cav. Division. In June 1973, B-75 was relocated to Ft. Lewis, Washington. Additional ARNG companies were formed: E-200 in Alabama in 1969, and E-65 in Puerto Rico and A-259 in Delaware, both in 1971. Indiana's E-151 was inactivated in March 1971 when it consolidated with D-151. The same took place in Michigan when E-425 was consolidated with F-425 in Feb. 1972.

The Vietnam Ranger companies were inactivated between 1969 and 1972 when the units they were attached to were inactivated in-country or returned to the US. The 75th Inf. Cos. were awarded four Valorous Unit Awards, one Meritorious Unit Commendation, 15 Vietnamese Gallantry Cross Unit Citations, and nine Vietnamese Civil Actions Unit Citations. O-75 was reactivated in 1970 at Ft. Richerson, Alaska; assigned to US Army, Alaska, the 'Arctic Rangers' provided aggressor support, and were to conduct search-and-rescue operations for downed airliners flying the polar route.

About 2,000 Ranger-qualified officers and NCOs served as advisers to the Army of the Republic of Vietnam's Ranger *[Biet Dong Quart*—BDQ) units. Growing from 86 companies in i960, consolidated

[1]'Recondo' is the acronym for '**RECON**naissance comman**DO***. The concept was developed by Maj.Gen. Westmoreland while commanding the 101st Airborne Div. in1959. Two- to three-week Recondo Courses were conducted by some divisions over the years and were, in effect, 'mini-Ranger' courses.

into battalions in 1965, a total of eight BDQ groups (regimental-sized), with 22 BDQ battalions, existed by the US withdrawal in 1972. The BDQ were, in reality, light infantry units intended for special employment, although only a few were airborne.

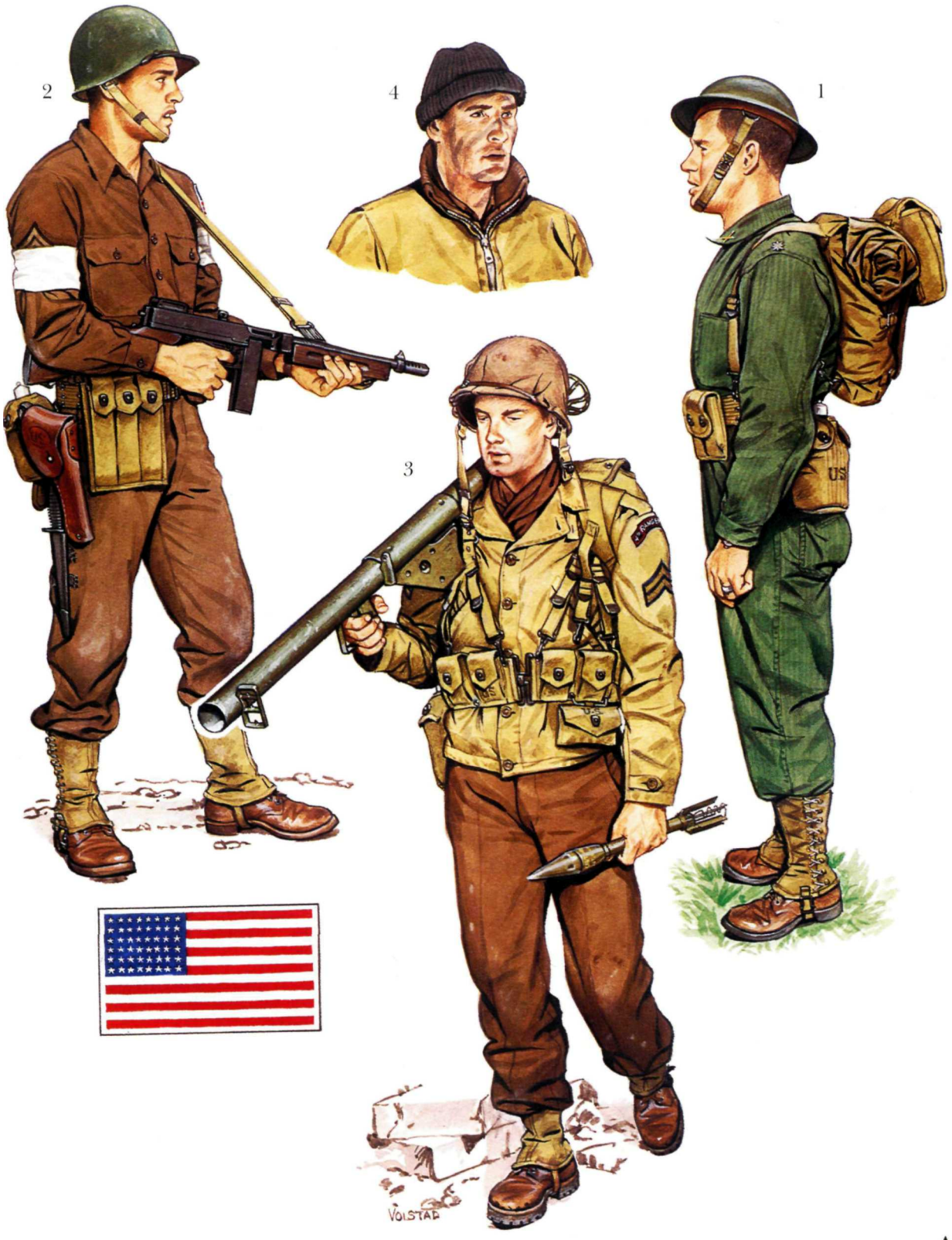
SF Operational Detachment A-41 (Ranger) of the 46th SF Co. was the only SF unit to additionally be designated Ranger. It was responsible for instructing the Royal Thai Army Ranger School at Lopburi. All of the team's personnel were Ranger-qualified; many of the NCOs had been instructors in the US Army Ranger Department. Co. B (Airborne/Ranger), 1st Bn., 29th Inf., attached to the Infantry School, was used to test airborne tactics and infantry equipment, and to act as aggressors for the Ranger Department in the early and mid-1970s.

Members of a Co. C, 75th Inf. (I Field Force) Recon. Team secure a sandbar to be used as a helicopter pick-up zone near Dalat, Feb. 1970. The Radio Operator (centre) has an AN/PRC-25 radio in his rucksack. The far man is a 'Kit Carson Scout', a former VC or NVA soldier acting as a guide for the US Army. (US Army)

Post-Vietnam

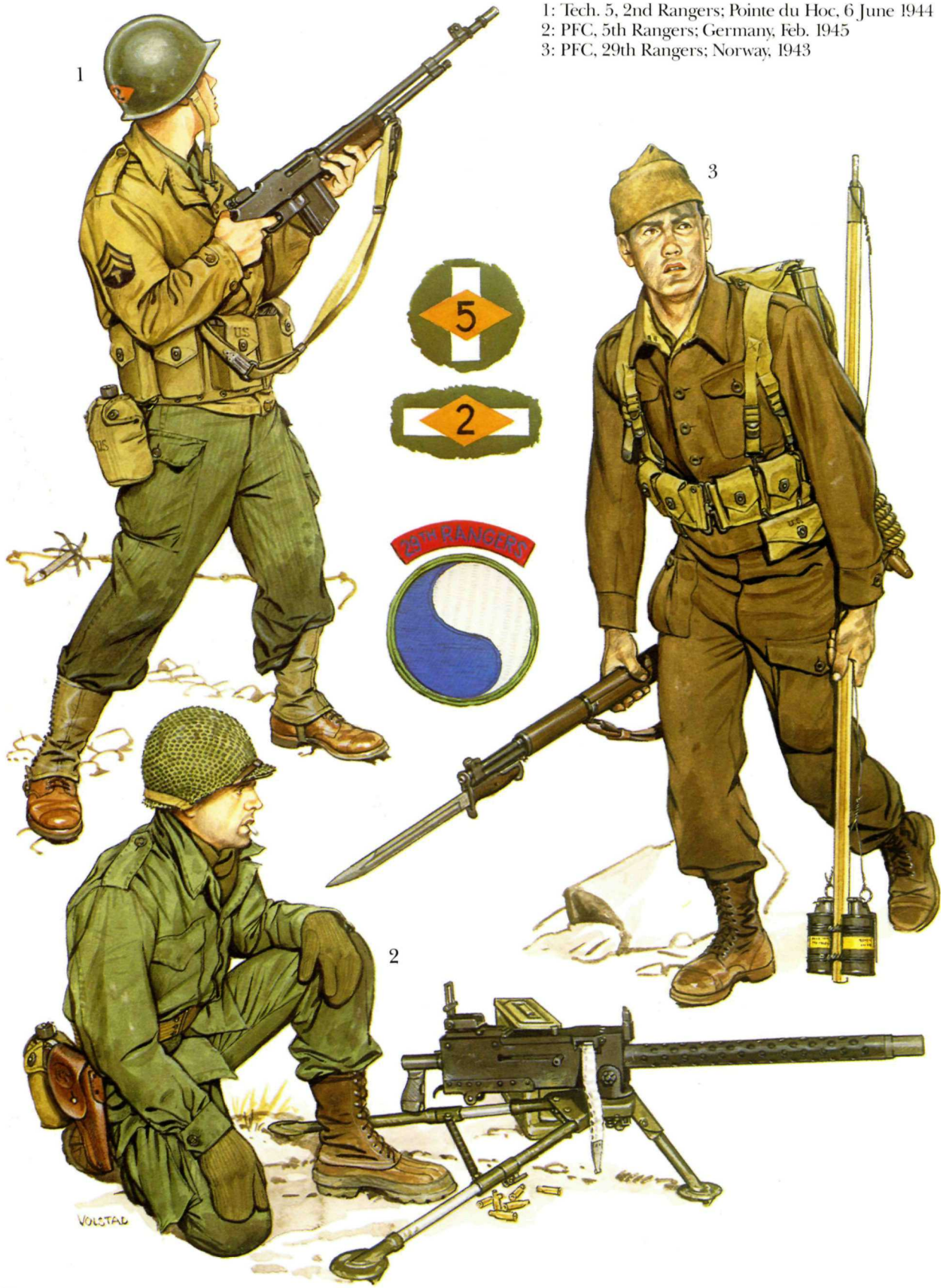
By the end of the Vietnam involvement in 1973, there were only two Ranger/LRRP companies in the Active Army (A- and B-75), and four in the ARNG (E-65, D-151, A-259, F-425). A-259 was disbanded in 1974 and D-151 in 1977. E-65 was disbanded in 1980, and replaced by G-143 in Texas. In late 1974 A- and B-75 were inactivated to provide manning slots for the two new Ranger battalions. This left only two LRRP units in the entire Army. It was not until 1981, however, that G-143 and F-425 were affiliated with III and XVIII Airborne Corps respectively. US corps in West Germany had no organic LRRP capability, a point of concern to neighbouring German corps, as

1: Lt. Col. Darby, 1st Rangers; Scotland, 1942
2: Sgt., 1st Rangers; Algeria, Nov. 1942
3: Cpl., 4th Rangers; Anzio, Jan. 1944
4: Staff Sgt., 1st Rangers; Tunisia, Feb. 1943



A

1: Tech. 5, 2nd Rangers; Pointe du Hoc, 6 June 1944
2: PFC, 5th Rangers; Germany, Feb. 1945
3: PFC, 29th Rangers; Norway, 1943



B

: PFC, 6th Rangers; Pangatian PW camp, Jan. 1945

2: 2nd Lt., Alamo Scouts; Philippines, 1945
3: Cpl., 5307th Composite Unit; Burma, 1944

C

1: Sgt., 2nd Ranger Co.; Korea, Jan. 1951
2: Cpl., 3rd Ranger Co.; Korea, summer 1951
3: PFC, 4th Ranger Co.; Munsan-ni, Korea, March 1951
4: PFC, 10th Ranger Co.; Camp Polk, 1951

D

1: Spec. 4, V Corps LRRP Co.; Germany, 1961
2: Spec. 4, Co. F(LRP), 425th Inf.; Camp Grayling, 1968
3: Staff Sgt., Co. C(LRP), 58th Inf.; Germany, 1967

E

1: Sgt., Infantry LRP Co. (Abn.); Vietnam, 1968
2: PFC, Ranger Co., 75th Inf.; Vietnam, 1970
3: Capt., ARVN Ranger advisor; Vietnam, 1967
4: Spec. 4, Co. L (Ranger), 75th Inf.; Vietnam, 1969

1: PFC, Co. O (Arctic Ranger), 75th Inf.; Polar ice cap, March 1971
2: Sgt., Co. G (Ranger), 143rd Inf.; UK, 1986
3: Spec. 4, LRS Det., 7th Inf. Div.; Ft. Ord, 1985
4: 1st Lt., Co. A (Ranger), 75th Inf.; Ft. Hood, 1972

G

1: Spec. 4, 1st Bn. (Ranger), 75th Inf.; Egypt, 1984
2: Spec. 4, BCT, 2d Bn. (Ranger), 75th Inf.; Ft. Lewis, 1981
3: PFC, 3d Bn., 75th Ranger Regt.; Ft. Benning, 1986
4: Sgt. 1st Cl., HHC, 75th Ranger Regt.; Ft. Benning, 1986

'Gun jeep', 2d Bn. (Ranger), 75th Inf.; Ft.Lewis, 1981

1: Ranger student, Camp Darby
2: Staff Sgt., Ranger Instructor, 3d Ranger Co.; Ft. Benning, 1986
3: Sgt. 1st Cl., RI, 1st Ranger Co.; Camp Rudder, 1986
4: Sgt., 1st Bn. (Ranger), 75th Inf.; Hunter AAF, 1984

J

Ranger unit insignia; see Plates commentaries in text for identification.

L

LRP and Ranger unit scrolls; see Plates commentaries in text for identification.

this created a 'surveillance gap' forward of the main battle zone. ARNG Ranger companies have a large HQ, three patrol platoons with seven five-man Patrols, and a communications platoon, giving a total of 188 troops.

The US had begun to place too much reliance on 'high tech' electronic intelligence collection means, placing little reliance on LRRPs. An actual US LRRP doctrine was non-existent. The Military Intelligence (MI) Center proposed 'Long Range Surveillance Operations Cos.' in the early 1980s, but this was fortuitously turned down as it suggested the use of intelligence specialists rather than infantrymen. It was not until late 1983 that G-143 and F-425 were re-affiliated with V and VII Corps, i.e. to remain stationed in the US, but to train extensively in Germany.

A number of provisional LRRP units were formed in 1982-83 as the Army slowly 're-discovered' their utility:

1st Inf. Div. —'Duty First Patrol' 1983 (section-sized)
3d Inf. Div. —3d Recon. Co. (Prov.) 1983 (now Troop E (LRS), 3d Sdn., 7th Cav.)
9th Inf. Div.—9th Inf. Div. Scout Co. 1982 (later Co. E (Scout), 60th Inf., now Co. E (LRS), 109th MI Bn.)
82d. Abn. Div. 1982 —Recon. Platoon, Co. B, 313th MI Bn. (served in Grenada)

Development of a 'new' US LRRP doctrine began at the Combined Arms Development Center in 1984. The result, entitled 'Long Range Surveillance' (LRS—pronounced 'larse'), was incompletely conceived. Little trouble was taken to study NATO LRRPs (which are far more developed than US efforts), to solicit in-put from the ARNG companies, or to consult with the NATO International LRRP School[1]. There is no provision for centralised command and control, equipment and techniques development, or exchange of information between units. The path to misutilisation is being paved.

The LRS concept prescribes a LRS Company (LRSC) for each corps and a LRS Detachment (LRSD) for each division, collectively referred to as

[1]The ILRRPS in Weingarten, Germany, operational since 1979. is funded by the UK, Germany, and Belgium. It provides a number of specialised courses for all NATO LRRP personnel.

A Recon. Team Leader of Co. C, 75th Inf. briefs his team prior to a mission, Feb. 1969. He is wearing tigerstripes and is armed with an XM-177E2 SMG. Note the Radio Operator's 'recon. gloves'. (US Army)

'LRS Units' (LRSU—pronounced 'arsue'). Both units are airborne. The LRSC will be attached to the corps MI Bde. (Combat Electronic Warfare Intel.) and the LRSD to the divisional Armd. Cav. Squadron. LRSCs arc organised similarly to the ARNG Ranger companies, but with only six six-man Reconnaissance Teams (RTs replace Patrols) per platoon, totalling 189 troops. LRSDs have a small HQ and communications section and four RTs (light divisions) with 41 troops, or six RTs (heavy divisions) with 53 troops.

The first Active Army LRSD activated was the 7th Inf. Div. (Light), LRSD-2d Squadron, 10th Cav. at Ft. Ord, California on 17 Feb. 1985. The first ARNG LRSD was the 35th Inf. Div. (Mech.) LRSD—1st Squadron, 167th Cav. in Nebraska in 1985. Seventeen Active (2d Inf. Div. in Korea excluded) and ten ARNG divisions will receive a LRSD. Cos. E and F (LRS), 51st Inf. were activated on 16 Sept. 1986 (though they began to form in late 1985) in Germany and are attached to V and VII Corps. G-143 and F-425 (to be re-designated LRRP on 1 Sept. 1987) will remain affiliated with those corps until the Active LRSCs are fully operational in 1987, then corps affiliations

will change. A third ARNG LRSC will be formed, providing all five corps with a LRSC/LRRP Co.:

I	Corps, Ft. Lewis, Wash.	**-F-425**	Pontiac, Michigan
III	Corps. Ft. Hood. Texas	**-G-143**,	Houston & Austin. Texas
V	Corps, Frankfurt, Germany	**-E-51,**	Weisbaden, Germany
VII	Corps. Stuttgart, Germany	**-F-51,**	Ludwigsburg. Germany
XVIII	Abn. Corps. Ft. Bragg, NC	**-?**	(Georgia projected)

A five-week LRSU Course, under the auspices of the Ranger Department, was begun in Oct. 1986. It trains leaders in LRS skills so they may return to their units to pass them on.

The 75th Rangers

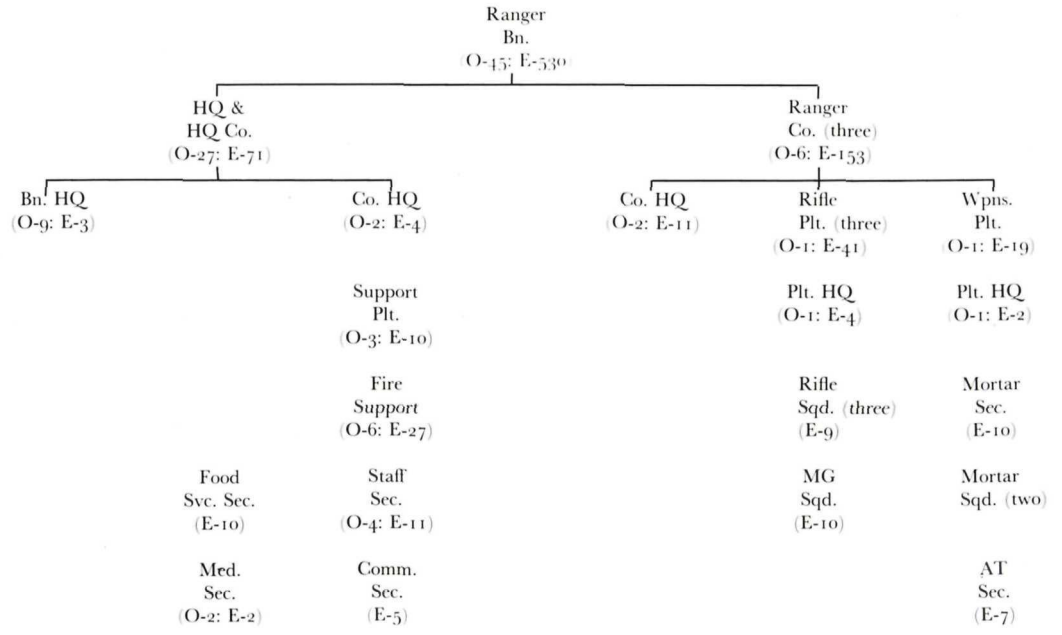
The outbreak of the 1973 Arab-Israeli War prompted the Army to realise the need for a special operations, light infantry force. 1st Bn. (Ranger), 75th Inf. was activated at Ft. Benning on 31 Jan. 1974. Army-wide selection was begun, and the troops assembled for training. On 1 July the unit jumped into Ft. Stewart, Georgia, where it remained until transferred to Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia in Sept. 1978. 2d Bn. (Ranger), 75th Inf. was activated at Ft. Lewis, Washington on 1 Oct. 1974.

Ranger battalion missions are intended to be of limited duration, and include: raids against high-value targets; interdiction of lines of communications; attacks on command, control, and communications facilities; as well as service support elements. Intended for direct action missions, they were also tasked initially to conduct LRRP and rear area security missions for which they were ill-suited; these tasks have been dropped. They have since been additionally tasked with supporting counter-terrorist and hostage rescue missions. Battalion training is intense and diversified, with required environmental/specialised training conducted as follows:

Training	**Frequency**	**Usual Location(s)**
Urban combat	6 months	Home station or other posts
Jungle	12 months	Panama Canal Zone
Desert	12 months	Calif., New Mexico. Wash.. Egypt
Mountain	12months	Colorado. Georgia, Wash.
Extreme cold	18 months	Alaska. Mich., Minn.. New York, Canada
Amphibious	18months	Calif.. Georgia, Virginia

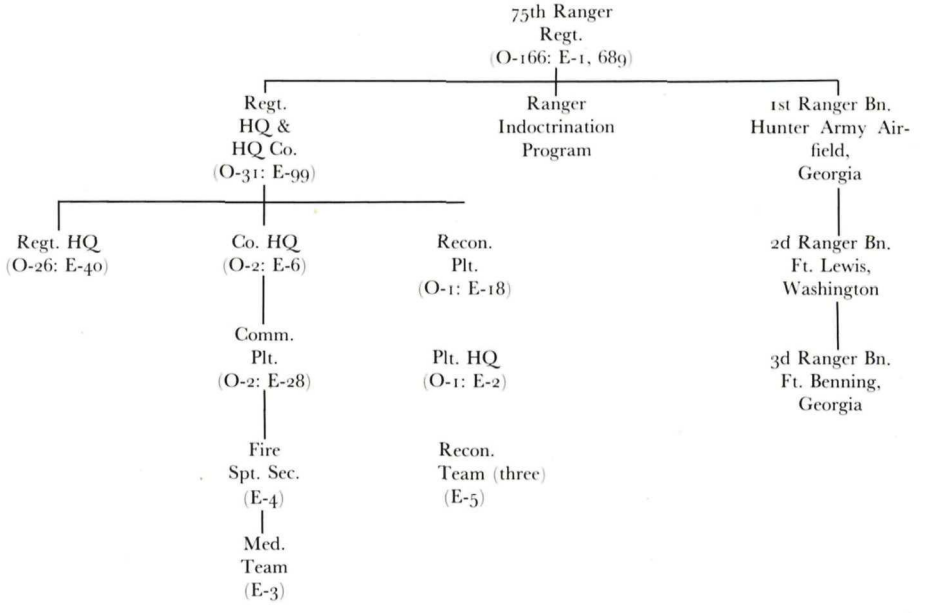
A heavily loaded Co. C, 75th Inf. Recon. Team returns from a mission. They wear camouflage jungle fatigues and have a large number of hand grenades. (US Army)

Ranger Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment—1986

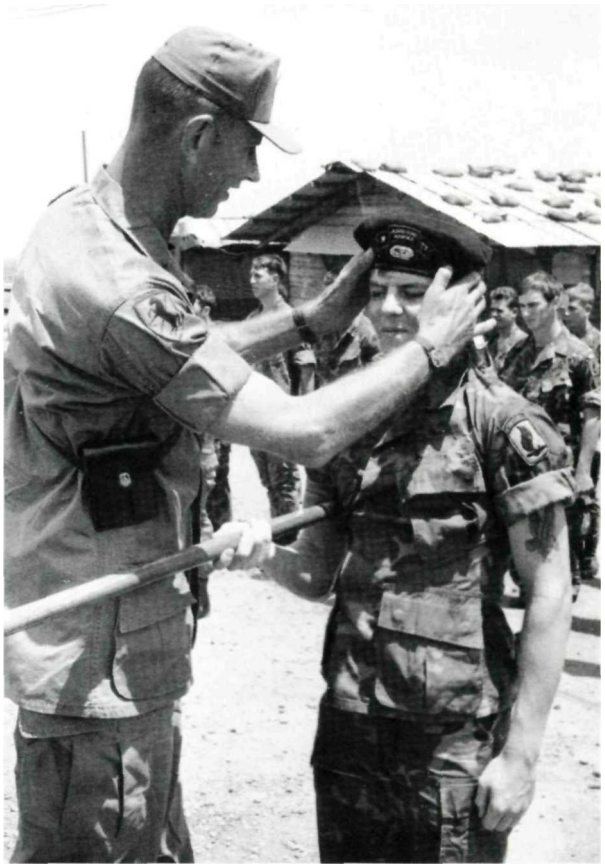


The three Ranger Companies are designated A through G, Principal weapons include: 6 x 60mm M224 mortars, 9 x 90mm M67 recoilless rifles, 10 x M47 Dragon AT missile launchers, 9 x 66mm M202A1 Flash incendiary rocket launchers, 64 x 40mm M203 grenade launchers, 27 x 7.62mm M60 MGs, 54 x 5.56mm M249E1 squad automatic weapons.

75th Ranger Regiment—1986


75th Ranger Regt. (O-166: E-1, 689)
Regt. HQ & HQ Co. (O-31: E-99)
Ranger Indoctrination Program
1st Ranger Bn. Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia
Regt. HQ (O-26: E-40)
Co. HQ (O-2: E-6)
Recon. Plt. (O-1: E-18)
2d Ranger Bn. Ft. Lewis, Washington
Comm. Plt. (O-2: E-28)
Plt. HQ (O-1: E-2)
3d Ranger Bn. Ft. Benning, Georgia
Fire Spt. Sec. (E-4)
Recon. Team (three) (E-5)
Med. Team (E-3)

The Regimental HQ and HQ Company provides command and control of two or more Ranger Battalions plus attached combat and support elements. When only one Ranger Battalion is deployed, the Regiment provides a small liaison and communications team.



The Guidon Bearer of Co. N, 75th Inf. (173d Airborne Bde.) is presented with his black beret during the unit's redesignation from 74th Inf. Detachment (LRP), April 1971. On the beret is worn the unit scroll above his jumpwings and 75th Inf jumpwing oval. (Shelby I . Stanton Collection)

Deployments to and joint training exercises with other countries are also conducted. Individual training is to an extremely high standard and physically demanding, following a simple rule: Be able to accomplish all basic infantry skills—well. All leaders and many 'followers' have completed the Ranger Course. Advanced individual skills are taught as well, which include: demolitions, sniper, pathfinder, scout swimmer, special operations training (SOT—counter-terrorism), and freefall and rough terrain parachuting.

During the ill-fated 1980 Iran hostage rescue attempt, Co. C, 1st Bn., 75th Inf. was deployed to Egypt, and from there was to secure the airfield at Manzariyeh, Iran. Delta Force was to have moved the liberated hostages there by helicopter for extraction by C-141. The 1st Special Operations Command (Airborne) was activated at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina on 1 Oct. 1982 to provide command and control of special operations units: SF, Rangers, psychological operations, and civil affairs.

About 500 Rangers of the 1st and 2d Bns. were parachuted from 500 feet on to Point Salines Airport, Grenada on 25 Oct. 1983. Within two hours they rescued 138 US medical students at the nearby True Blue Campus. The following day another 224 students were rescued at Grand Anse Beach. On the 27th, as the 2d Bn. was preparing to depart, elements were ordered to conduct an airmobile assault and secured the Calivigny Barracks. The units proved their value by accomplishing a quick-response, high-risk mission with few casualties[1].

Due to the Rangers' success on Grenada, it was decided to activate a third battalion and a regimental HQ. HQ and HQ.C0. and 3d Bn., 75th Inf. Regt. (Ranger) were activated at Ft. Benning on 3 Oct. 1984. On 17 April 1986 the 75th Inf. Regt. (Ranger) and its three battalions were re-designated the 75th Ranger Regt.; the lineage, honours, awards, and campaign credit won by the World War II and Korean War Ranger units were presented to the 75th Rangers[2].

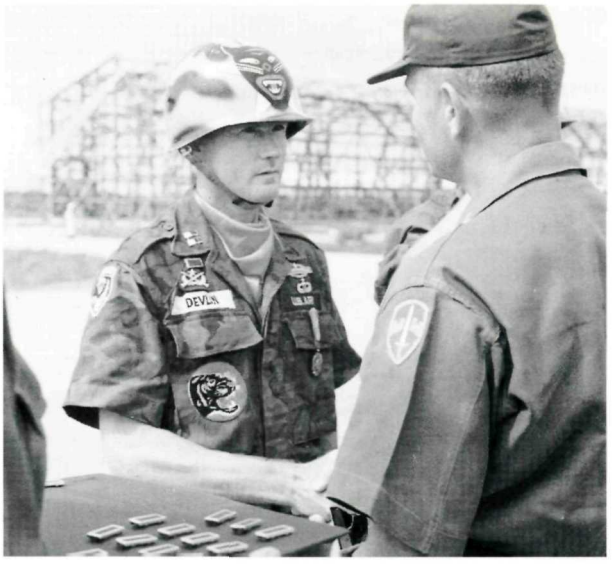
The Ranger Course

The Ranger Course had its roots in the Korean War Ranger Training Command. When the Command was inactivated the Ranger Department, a branch of the Infantry School, was formed on 10 Oct. 1951. Its purpose was, and is, to conduct the Ranger Course in order to train combat arms company grade officers and NCOs in patrolling and small unit combat skills. Graduates return to their units to pass on these skills.

From 1954 to the early 1970s the Army attempted to have one Ranger-qualified NCO per infantry platoon and one officer per company; this was seldom achieved, however. Also from 1954, it was required that all combat arms officers attend either the Ranger or the Airborne Course; this now applies only to Regular officers.

[1]For further information on Operation 'Urgent Fury', sec Osprey MAA 159, *Grenada 1983.*

[2]SF mains these as well, now sharing them with the Rangers. The three battalions also carry the lineages and honours of certain Vietnam Ranger Cos. 1st Bn. = C-75; 2d Bn. = H-75; 3d Bn. = F-75.



Gen. Westmoreland presents the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross to a Ranger Advisor during the presentation of the US Presidential Unit Citation to the ARVN 44th Ranger Bn., June 1965. He wears fatigues of ARVN Ranger camouflage material with a red scarf. Above his name tape is the gold ARVN Ranger Badge on a maroon backing. On his right shoulder is the 187th Airborne Regt'l. Combat Team patch from his Korean War service. The helmet is sand-on-OD, with a full-colour representation of the ARVN Ranger 'panther' patch (see Plate F3 for its colours). The scroll of the 44th Ranger Bn. as worn by advisors is depicted in the close-up, along with the ARVN Ranger shoulder patch. The scroll has white figures and a red border on a black backing. (Advisor US Army, insignia—Ken Askins)

Army **National Guard Long Range Patrol and Ranger Companies**

LRP/Ranger Co.	*Served*	*Home Station*	*Assets Source*
Co. E, 65th Inf.	1 Apr. 71-29 Feb. 80	San Juan, Puerto Rico	755th Trans. Co. (Md. Cgo. Trk.)
Co. G, 143d Inf.	1 Apr. 80-present	Houston & Austin, Texas	Co. A, 2d Bn. (Abn.), 143d Inf. (36th Abn. Bde.)
Co. D, 151st Inf.	1 Dec. 67-1 Mar. 77	Greenfield & Evansville, Indiana	Co. B & C, 1st Bn. (Abn.), 151st Inf. (38th Inf. Div.)
Co. E, 151st Inf.	1 Dec. 67-1 Mar. 71	Muncie, Indiana	Co. A, 1st Bn. (Abn.), 151st Inf. (38th Inf. Div.)
Co. E, 200th Inf.	1 Dec. 69 - 1 Feb. 72	Mobile, Alabama	778th Maint. Co. (Lt. Equip.) (Direct Spt.)
Co. A, 259th Inf.	1 Nov. 71-1 June 74	New Castle, Delaware	1049th Trans. Co. (Acft. Maint.) (Gen. Spt.)
Co. E, 425th Inf.	1 Feb. 68-1 Feb. 72	Pontiac, Michigan	Co. B, 1st Bn. (Abn.), 225th Inf. (46th Inf. Div.)
Co. F, 425th Inf.	1 Feb. 68-present	Detroit (until 72), Pontiac, Michigan	Co. C, 1st Bn. (Abn.), 225th Inf. (46th Inf. Div.)

The CO and Operations Officer of Co. F (Ranger), 425th Inf., Michigan ARNG complete a jumpmaster inspection on a T-10M parachute, early 1970s. Both wear OG jungle fatigues and black berets. The beret flash is black with a white border and two gold bands. A subdued scroll (similar to Plate L12) is worn above the Michigan ARNG patch. (F-425 Inf.)

The Course has changed little since its inception. Until recently, it has been an eight-week course divided into three phases[1]:

Benning Phase (3d Ranger Co.) The 8-day Morgan sub-phase at Harmony Church weeds out quitters, tests physical fitness and endurance; teaches demolitions, employment of artillery fire, communications, land navigation, basic patrolling, hand-to-hand combat, and other skills. The ten-day Darby sub-phase, conducted at Camp Darby, teaches use of night vision devices, employment of Army aircraft, and advanced patrolling skills, with the students running their first patrol.

Mountain Phase (2d Ranger Co.) Conducted at Camp Frank D. Merrill near Dahlonega, Georgia, this 17-day phase requires the execution of numerous squad- and platoon-size reconnaissance and combat patrols in mountainous/forested terrain, and teaches basic mountaineering skills.

Florida Phase (1st Ranger Co.) Conducted at Camp Rudder, Eglin Air Force Base, this 18-day phase includes small unit tactical exercises and more patrol missions, in a jungle/swamp environment. Additional tactical skills and combat techniques are taught, along with airmobile and small boat operations.

[1]It was seven weeks long in the late 1950s. Prior to Jan. 1961 the phases' sequence were: Benning. Florida. and Mountain.

Four additional days are for travel between phases and out-processing, giving a total of 58 days or over 1,000 hours (if conducted in a 40-hour week it would take 26 weeks) of practical combat training—almost half of which is conducted at night. Environmentally oriented survival training is included in each phase. Live-fire exercises are also included in the Florida and new Desert Phases. Airborne-qualified students (most are) make a number of parachute insertions.

In April 1983 a Desert Phase was inserted after the Mountain Phase, due to America's increased potential involvement in the Middle East, and is run by the 2d Ranger Co.; it was first conducted at Ft. Bliss, Texas and subsequently at Dugway Proving Ground, Utah. Five days were 'borrowed' from the Mountain Phase and two from Florida so as not to lengthen the Course. Additional patrol missions and raids are executed in this phase. In late 1986 the Course was extended to 65 days, returning the borrowed days to the other phases and providing the Desert with its own full week.

Contrary to popular opinion, the Ranger Course is not a 'killer commando snake-eater' school. Its purpose is to place soldiers in a realistic combat environment, to teach them leadership skills and perfect their combat techniques. This is accomplished by placing the students under pressure, achieved by deprivation of sleep and rations, 'impossible' time limits to accomplish missions, and maintaining extremely high standards at all times. An unco-operative opposing (aggressor) force is provided. Students are evaluated by instructors and peers alike. Students, regardless of rank, are required to plan and lead graded patrols—of which at least three must be accomplished successfully. Attrition is high, with as many as a third of a class 'washing out'.

To apply for the Course a soldier must be at least a Spec. 4; must complete a 'hands-on' exam of 43 prerequisite combat tasks, accomplish a 12-mile march with equipment in three hours, pass the Army Physical Readiness Test (push-ups, sit-ups, two-mile run—all timed), and qualify in the Ranger Water Survival Test. The student will again be tested in all of these areas during the Benning Phase, with additional tests of physical and tactical skills.

The Course is open to Active Army, ARNG,

Arctic Rangers of Co. O, 75th Inf. board a C-130A at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, prior to conducting the first jump on to the Polar ice cap, 4 March 1971. They will put on their parachutes during the flight. (US Army)

Army Reserves, Senior (college) ROTC, and West Point cadets. Personnel from other US armed forces also attend, as do guest allied soldiers. All leadership positions in the Ranger battalions, the LRSUs, and the new light infantry battalions are required to be Ranger-qualified. Ranger-qualified soldiers of all grades will also be found throughout the Army, however.

Obviously, a soldier must be well prepared in advance for the Ranger Course, not only physically and mentally, but also in the specific fields of small unit tactics, patrolling techniques, and basic combat skills. The 75th Rangers prepare their troops well. All newly assigned men, if not already airborne-qualified, are sent to the three-week Airborne Course. They then attend the three-week Ranger Indoctrination Program—RIP. The approximately 40 per cent who do not make it are sent to other units. After eight to 12 months in a Ranger company, those attending the Ranger Course go through a three to four week Pre-Ranger Program which readies them for the Course's rigours. These programmes were originally established by the battalions, but the RIP is now under the auspices of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

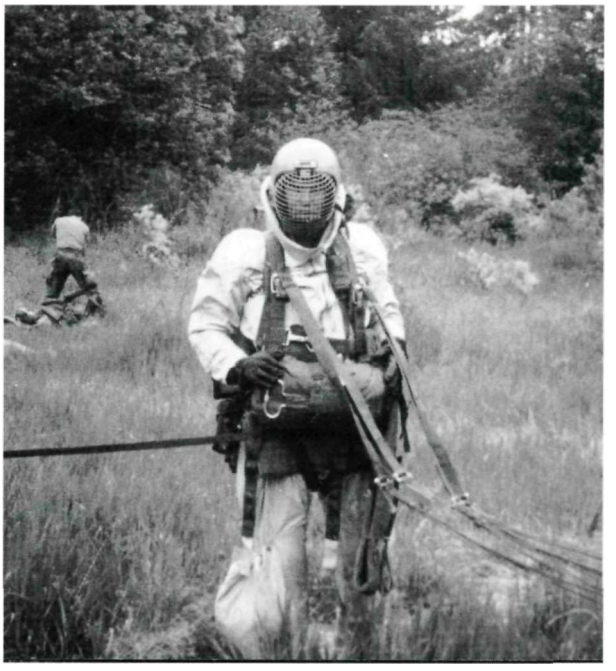
The Plates

A1: Lt.Col. William Darby, 1st Rangers; Commando Depot, Scotland, May 1942

The 1st Rangers wore the one-piece herringbone twill work suit during their training and on many active operations in North Africa. The M1917A1 helmet was initially worn until replaced by the new M1 helmet in the autumn of 1942. Darby is outfitted with the M1928 haversack, the standard Army backpack throughout most of the war. Though armed with a .45 cal. M1911A1 automatic pistol, the colonel also carried a .30 cal. M1903A1 Springfield rifle, even after the unit was re-equipped with the M1 Garand that autumn.

A2: Sergeant, Assault Squad Leader, 1st Rangers; Arzew, Algeria, Nov. 1942

The Rangers generally wore the wool shirt and trousers, even after herringbone fatigues were



A member of Co. E (Scout), 6oth Inf. (9th Inf. Div.) after a tree jump at Ft. Lewis, Washington, May 1985. The tree penetration suits were off-white with a light blue helmet, and were borrowed from the US Forest Service's Smoke Jumpers. The parachute is a steerable MC1-1/B. (Steven Ball)

introduced. Wool gave the fast-moving Rangers a measure of warmth during cold desert nights, thus eliminating the need for blankets. Black-on-OD rank insignia were generally worn by the 1st Rangers. White armbands on both arms and a printed US flag on the left shoulder were worn as a means of identification for both Allied forces and the Vichy French. The .45 cal. M1 Thompson sub-machine guns were pooled at battalion level and issued to individuals as required. Some Rangers managed to acquire M1928A1 pistols. Many had sewn the scabbards for Fairburn-Sykes 'com-mando' knives, issued at the Commando Depot, directly to their trouser legs. He also carries M1938 wire-cutters.

A3: Corporal, Platoon Special Weapons Section, 4th Rangers; Anzio, Italy, Jan. 1944

Ranger battalions were issued 20 2.36-in. M1 rocket launchers, 'bazookas', for tank- and bunker-busting. The 4th Rangers utilised burlap helmet covers during their operations in Italy. This Ranger wears the M1941 field jacket and special issue climbing boots with M1938 leggings cut down to five inches in height, a popular Ranger practice. His web equipment is standard issue.

A4: Staff Sergeant, Assault Section Leader, 1st Rangers; Sened Pass, Tunisia, Feb. 1943

During the various raids conducted by the 1st Rangers in North Africa, they generally wore wool knit skull caps or OD M1941 wool knit 'jeep' caps. The latter had a small stiff bill and knit ear flaps. He wears the very popular tankers' jacket.

B1: Technician 5, *Automatic Rifleman, 2nd Rangers; Pointe du Hoc, France, 6 June 1944*

The three assault companies carried only four .30 cal. M1918A2 Browning automatic rifles (BAR) apiece. Normal Ranger practice was to remove the bipod to reduce the weapon's weight. Twelve 20-round magazines were carried in the M1937 belt. The 2nd and 5th Rangers made general use of the herringbone summer fatigues, combined with the M1941 field jacket. Both battalions had an orange diamond and unit number painted on the backs of their helmets. Officers were further identified by a vertical, and NCOs by a horizontal white bar beneath it. On the beach lies one of the many rocket-propelled grapnels, launched from landing craft, which failed to reach the cliff top due to the added weight of wet ropes.

B2: Private First Class, Machine-gunner, 5th Rangers; Irsch-Zerf road, Germany, 27 Feb. 1945

By the winter of 1944-45 most infantry units had been issued the M1943 field jacket to replace the M1941. Its basic style is retained to this day in Army field jacket designs. Heavy field trousers were issued along with the jackets. He also wears M1944 shoepacs—cold/wet weather boots. The .30 cal. M1919A4 Browning light machine gun was one of the mainstays of small unit firepower.

B3: Private First Class, Rifleman, 2gth Rangers; Norway, 1943

Having been trained by a 1st Rangers cadre, the 29th Rangers adopted many of its clothing practices. However, during its raids with the Commandos, British battle dress was worn along with US paratrooper boots. The .30 cal. M1 rifle, tipped with an M1905 bayonet, was the most common weapon used by Ranger units. The pole

charge, used to shove through pillbox firing ports, was fabricated by attaching two MkIIIA1 concussion grenades to a former tent pole. The insert depicts the unit's unofficial tab over the 29th Inf. Div. patch.

C1: Private First Class, Sniper, 6th Rangers; Pangatian PW Camp, Luzon, 29 Jan. 1945

Each Ranger platoon *HQ* was assigned a sniper with an M1903A4 rifle, a specially selected M1903A1 with a 2.5 power M73B1 telescope added as well as other modifications. He is wearing the almost universal M1943 herringbone fatigues with an M1941 field cap. He is also wearing the new combat boots, which came into general issue in late 1944. On his side is an M3 combat knife.

C2: 2nd Lieutenant, Team Leader, Alamo Scouts; Philippines, 1945

He wears the M1943 two-piece camouflage suit and the M1945 field cap, although the Scouts more often wore the olive green herringbone fatigues. He is armed with the .30 cal. M1A1 paratrooper carbine and an M1911A1 pistol. In order to disengage with the enemy, he is carrying an M15 white phosphorus (WP) and MkII fragmentation grenades. Pictured is the semi-official Alamo Scouts patch, always worn on the *right* shoulder, designed by PFC Harry Golden.

C3: Corporal, Automatic Rifleman, 5307th Composite Unit; Burma, 1944

This Marauder is also wearing the herringbone fatigues, but with a field hat, popular in this unit. Though the Marauders' mission required light loads carried under arduous tropical conditions, there were few suitable special equipment items available. Even the M1910 entrenching tool, replaced by the M1943 folding model, was issued. Concessions were granted, however, including the issue of canvas and rubber jungle boots and the M1922 BAR. Originally designed for cavalry use, it was shorter and a few pounds lighter than the more common M1918A2. Many of the troops carried scarves made of supply parachute fabric, which came in four of the colours designating combat teams—red, white, blue, and green. The unofficial 'Merrill's Marauder' patch is shown, made by unit members just before the 5307th was disbanded;

Two Patrols of Co. G (Ranger), 143d Inf., Texas ARNG prepare for insertion at Otterburn Camp, England, in June 1986 during Exercise 'Tri-Star'—an SAS-sponsored NATO LRRP exercise. Most have Alpinist II rucksacks and others the large ALICE pack, a matter of individual preference. (Lawrence Krieg)

officially they wore the US Armed Forces, China-Burma-India patch.

D1: Sergeant, Squad Leader, 2d Ranger Co.; Korea, Jan. 1951

The M1943 field jacket and trousers were still in use, but soon to be replaced by the M1951. One post-war winter uniform improvement was the popular pile cap. Wearing light equipment and rubber overboots, this Ranger is standing guard in a rear area. The semi- and full-automatic M2 carbine, introduced in 1945, is now in wide use. He is also armed with an M4 bayonet. The unpopular 2-in. wide chevrons were used from 1948 until replaced with the former full-size OD-on-navy-blue stripes in February 1951. Combat troops used blue-on-gold-yellow chevrons, while non-combatants' had reversed colours. When the 2nd Ranger Co. was formed, unit members purchased 2nd Ranger Bn. scrolls from a local surplus shop, picked out the 'BN' and hand-sewed on 'CO'. When these were no longer available they adopted the scroll pictured in Plate K8.

D2: Corporal, Grenadier, 3rd Ranger Co.; Korea, summer 1951

A slightly improved version of the World War II herringbone fatigues was introduced in 1948. The OD-on-navy-blue chevrons had recently been reintroduced, but many troops had continued throughout to wear them in the field rather than the small 'goldenlite' stripes. Web gear was essentially the same as that used in the previous war, but olive green equipment had replaced most khaki items. He has the M1943 folding entrenching tool; and a more recent addition, the three-pocket hand grenade pouch. Armed with an M1 rifle with an M7A1 grenade launcher and M15 grenade sight, he is preparing to launch a standard MkIIA1 fragmentation hand grenade, fitted to an M1 grenade projection adapter. On the ground are M9A1 AT and M19 WP grenades.

A study of two 2d Bns., 75th Inf. staff sergeants at Ft. Lewis, Washington, 1981. Both wear camouflage jungle fatigues. The NCO to the right has a CAR-15 SMG, assembled from commercial components since the XM177E2 SMG is no longer in the Army's inventory. (John Lindsey)

D3: Private First Class, Rifleman, 4th Ranger Co.; Munsan-ni, Korea, 23 March 1951

The T-7A parachute, an improvement over the World War II T-5, was introduced in 1948; it utilised a 24-foot flat circular camouflage or white canopy. Beneath the reserve parachute is an M1945 combat pack to which is secured an extra belt of .30 cal. ammunition for his platoon's M1919A6 light machine gun. His uniform consists of the M1943 field jacket and trousers with an M1C parachutist's helmet.

D4: Private First Class, 10th Ranger Co.; Camp Polk, Louisiana, 1951

Only a few of the Korean War era Ranger companies actually wore the black beret, at the time unauthorised. The 1st to 8th Cos. did not receive them, and of the later companies, only the 10th and 13th are known to have worn them—though others may have. Beret flashes, which owe their origin to Special Forces, were not used; instead a jumpwing background common to all companies was displayed, along with the Ranger tab. Why black was chosen remains a mystery, but since black has long been associated with the Rangers (the original scroll backing) and the fact that 'night is the Rangers' favorite time of day', it seems the most appropriate colour.

E1: Specialist 4, Senior Scout/Observer, V Corps LRRP Co.; West Germany, 1961

Both V and VII Corps LRRP Cos. wore French-made maroon berets, but only with fatigues in the field and home garrison. Maroon was selected since most other NATO LRRP units wore it. They were banned in 1964 by Lt.Gen. Creighton W. Abrams.

A group of 2d Bn., 75th Inf. Rangers undertaking jungle training in Panama, 1981. They relocated their rank insignia to their chest pockets so they would not be caught under their parachute harnesses. Note the camouflage tape applied to some of the M16A1 forearms. (John Lindsey)

The fatigues were the cotton OG 107 introduced in the late 1950s. The V Corps LRRP Co. used a special version of the corps' patch, with the addition of a black border; by 1963 it had fallen out of use, and a white/blue airborne tab was adopted. His web gear is the M1956 load bearing equipment (LBE) used by the entire Army. It was supplemented by an Mi951 mountain rucksack, necessary due to the large loads required by LRRP's independent and extended-duration missions. He is armed with a 7.62mm NATO M14 rifle.

E2: Specialist 4, Senior Radio Operator, Co. F (LRP), 425th Infantry; Camp Grayling, Michigan, 1968

This radio operator is uniformed in the improved version of the OG 107 fatigues (buttoned sleeve cuffs were the principal innovation, but were still not supposed to be rolled up) and the ever-unpopular OG 106 hot weather 'baseball' field cap introduced in 1964. The jumpwing oval, formerly used by 1st Bn., 225th Inf., was used by F-425 until 1986. His radio is an AN/PRC-74B, an AM single-sideband set. He is keying an encrypted message into an AN/GRA-71 coder/burst transmission group's magnetic tape cartridge; the message could be burst-transmitted at 300 words per minute. M1956 LBE is used along with the lightweight, aluminium-framed nylon rucksack. LRRP, SF, and airborne units were the first in the National Guard to receive the 5.56mm M16A1 rifle.

E3: Staff Sergeant, Patrol Leader, Co. C (LRP), 58th Infantry; West Germany, 1967

Cross-country skiing has always been a part of training for LRRPs stationed in snow regions. Clothed in the M1951 field cap, jacket, and trousers, he wears only the overwhite trousers and not the parka. This provides a remarkable degree of camouflage in wooded areas, as the white trousers blend into the ground snow, and the olive green jacket with evergreen trees. He wears black insulated rubber boots. Above his left pocket is the senior parachutist badge; and over the right are West German jumpwings, a result of partnership programmes with the German *Fernspahkompanie 200,* one of three such LRRP units in the *Bundeswehr.* He is armed with the early version of the M16 rifle.

F1: Sergeant, Patrol Leader, Infantry LRP Company (Airborne); Vietnam, 1968

This NCO could be a member of any one of the various provisional or established LRRP units. Tigerstripe uniforms were worn extensively along with olive green and camouflage jungle fatigues. Insignia of any kind were rarely worn, both for security reasons and because uniforms seldom lasted for more than two or three missions. Headwear was usually to individual taste or, at most, as prescribed by team standing operating procedures. Olive green and various camouflage pattern jungle hats—'boony hats'—were the most common. Issue leather gloves, with the fingertips cut off—'recon. gloves'—protected hands from thorns and vines while permitting unhampered use of weapons. The excellent jungle boots were introduced in 1965. In Vietnam the patrol leader normally carried one of the team's radios, an AN/PRC-25, or the improved -77. The senior radio operator would carry a second radio of the same model or, if extreme range was needed, an AN/PRC-74B—used in voice mode.

Two 2d Bn., 75th Inf. Rangers, under the tutoring of a Delta Force instructor, practice counter-terrorist building clearing methods at the Special Operations Tactics Course, Mott Lake Camp, Ft. Bragg, 1982. (John Lindsey)

The radio was the team's 'key to life' as it was needed to report information; to direct artillery, air strikes, and helicopter gunships; and also to request medevac and emergency extractions. Standard M1956 LBE, modified for the realities of Vietnam (i.e. with extra ammo and water) was used along with the indigenous rucksack, procured from an SF unit. Grenades are the M26A1 fragmentation and M18 coloured smoke, available in yellow, red, green, and violet. He is armed with an M16A1 rifle.

F2: Private First Class, Scout/Observer, Ranger Company, 75th Infantry; Vietnam, 1970

By this stage of the war there were numerous improvements in clothing, equipment, and weaponry. There were still, of course, wide variations in dress and equipment depending on mission, weather, the latest 'discovery' (fad) of what worked, and individual tastes. Headbands, made from issue triangular bandages, were common, as was the use of sweat towels—'drive-on rags'. Cord was sometimes tied around legs to prevent trousers from snagging on brush—and because it looked 'salty'. The Army, having determined that an issue camouflage uniform was impractical due to vegetation differences in Vietnam, reversed its decision and issued the camouflage jungle uniform in 1967. Even the jungle boot had been redesigned with the 'Panama' sole, which in theory prevented the accumulation of mud in the cleats. In 1969 the Modernised LBE was introduced to provide a lighter-weight and more durable LBE for tropical use. Canteen carriers were used to carry additional magazines. Several types of two-quart canteens were available. An excellent nylon tropical rucksack (though sometimes too small for the needs of LRRPs) was also introduced. On the right suspenders is an Air Force survival knife, and the left has an SDU-5/E strobe light attached, used to mark the Patrol's night location for aircraft. Even the grenade was improved by the introduction of the M33 fragmentation. The M34 white phosphorus grenade—by providing fragments, casualty-producing WP droplets, and dense screening smoke—was used to break contact. He is armed with a 5.56mm XM177E2 submachine gun, more commonly known as the CAR-15.

F1: Captain, ARVN Ranger Advisor; Ranger Training Center, Duc My, Vietnam, 1967

Ranger-qualified US advisors assigned to ARVN Ranger units usually wore ARVN Ranger insignia, and sometimes their uniforms. This advisor wears US-style fatigues made from ARVN Ranger/SF camouflage fabric, the ARVN Ranger qualification badge over his left pocket, and the ARVN Ranger patch beneath it. On his shirt front he wears the ARVN equivalent of his rank insignia, a practice required of US advisors and SF officers. The beret and badge are standard ARVN Ranger items. The Vietnamese Ranger scroll (also made with black backings) was worn only by US Ranger advisors and not by ARVN Rangers, who wore the 'panther' patch. Scrolls worn by group and battalion advisors had the unit number on the left end tab and either 'GP' or 'BN' on the right; group reconnaissance companies had 'RCN' on the right tab. His shoulder patch is that of Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, worn by all US advisors.

F4: Specialist 4, Senior Radio Operator, Co. L (Ranger), 75th Infantry; Vietnam, 1956

Ranger companies of the 75th Inf. (and some of the earlier LRP units) wore the black beret on a generally limited and unofficial basis; their wear was rather irregular during the course of any given unit's existence, usually determined by the whims of

the current company CO and the tolerance of higher headquarters. There were no established regulations governing the wearing of insignia on black berets, but there were three common varieties. Pictured here is one of many variations of the 75th Inf. flash, derived from the Merrill's Marauders patch, and locally made in several different shield shapes as well as in the more common beret flash style. Another style featured variations of the 75th Inf. metal crest, similar to the flash. Jumpwings were often worn above the crest. Ranger-qualified individuals would usually wear their tab above both insignia styles. The last style was the wearing of a company scroll above the jumpwings and oval.

G1: Private First Class, Radio Operator, Co. 0 (Arctic Ranger), 75th Infantry; Polar ice cap, 4 March, 1971

The Arctic Rangers jumped on to the Polar ice cap in the winter of 1971 to conduct a search and rescue exercise. At the exercise's end, a mass re-enlistment ceremony was held. Being held on the ice cap, the re-enlistment was considered to have been conducted in international 'waters': this exempted the re-enlistment bonuses from being taxed. (A regulation was issued shortly afterwards, prohibiting re-enlistments on the pack ice!) It was required that a guard be posted to keep a polar bear watch. Armed with a special issue .300 H&H Magnum Winchester Model 70 rifle, this trooper is outfitted in the cold-dry uniform. This ensemble takes the layering principle to the extreme: long underwear, wool shirt, field jacket and trousers with liners, arctic parka and trousers with liners, insulated cap, fur-ruffed hood, and wool mitten inserts with leather shells and fur-ruffed arctic mittens. He wears the white insulated arctic boots, similar to the black model but with an additional layer of insulation. His sleeping bag consists of the M1949 mountain bag inside the down-filled arctic outer shell.

G2: Sergeant, Assistant Patrol Leader, Co. G (Ranger), 143d Infantry; Otterburn, England, July 1986

This APL is clothed in olive green jungle fatigues. No longer authorised after September 1987, they are being replaced by a similar model printed with the woodlands pattern of the battle dress uniform (see Plate G3). This unit is fortunate in that large

A 2d Bn., 75th Inf. Ranger rigged for jumping under arctic conditions. Note the snowshoes and snow-camouflaged M6o machinegun. (John Lindsey)

numbers of personnel train with various NATO LRRPs (Danish, German, British, French). This is reflected by the British jumpwings (an on-going exchange programme is conducted with the SAS) and the International LRRP School pocket patch. Unit insignia and badges are not normally worn on mission uniforms, however. His LBE is the ALICE (all-purpose light individual carrying equipment) with the addition of a STABO extraction harness. He also carries a survival kit: each man is required to construct one of these. Many unit members carry an Indian-made MkIII Gurkha *kukri* knife, an excellent tool for clearing brush and cutting roots when constructing an observation post. An M17A2 protective mask is carried on his left leg. His Alpinist II rucksack is a custom-modified commercial model, purchased by the unit, as they have almost twice the load-carrying capability of the large ALICE pack. Strapped on the 'ruck' is a roll of chicken wire used for

3d Bn., 75th Rangers on Puerto Rico during Exercise 'Ocean Venture', April 1986. They are wearing the new Kevlar 'Fritz' helmet with a woodlands pattern camouflage cover, along with OG jungle fatigues. (3-75 Rgr)

camouflaging OPs. Each Patrol has one 40mm M203 grenade launcher fitted to an M16A1 rifle.

G1: Specialist 4, Senior Scout/Observer, LRS Detachment, 7th Infantry Division (Light); Ft. Ord, California, 1985

This member of the first LRSD officially activated wears the battle dress uniform (BDU) with the maroon beret, worn by all LRS units. The beret flash shows the unit's relationship with its parent 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry; it is possible that many of the divisional LRSDs may adopt this flash. He wears the ALICE LBE and the large LC-1 ALICE pack on an LC-2 frame. He is equipped with M19 7 x 50 binoculars and an M16A1 rifle.

G4: 1st Lieutenant, Patrol Platoon Leader, Co. A (Ranger), 75th Infantry; Ft. Hood, Texas, 1972

This last of the Active Army Ranger/LRRP companies was attached to the 1st Cavalry Division. Ranger-qualified officers wore their tab above their badge of rank, while enlisted men wore the 75th Inf. crest rather than rank insignia. Non-Ranger qualified troops wore a gold/black airborne tab in the same manner. The black beret was not made official until 20 December 1978.

H1: Specialist 4, Sniper, 1st Bn. (Ranger), 75th Infantry; Egypt, 1984

Elements of the Ranger battalions take part in the annual 'Bright Star' deployment exercise in Egypt. This Ranger is uniformed in the desert camouflage version of the BDU, adopted in 1982. He is armed with the M21 sniper rifle, an accurised version of the M14, fitted with a 3-9 power adjustable ranging telescope. LBE consists of ALICE gear, but with the substitution of old MLBE M14 magazine pouches.

H2: Specialist 4, Building Clearing Team, 2d Bn. (Ranger), 75th Infantry; Ft. Lewis, Washington, 1981

Tasked with securing transfer airfields for Delta Force's deep penetration raid and hostage rescue operations, the Ranger battalions organised several sub-units with which to accomplish this mission. This member of a BCT wears camouflage jungle fatigues and a wool watch cap. Black spray-painted tennis shoes complete his clothing. Special equipment includes: AN/PVS-5 night vision goggles, 9mm MP5A3S noise-suppressed sub-machine gun, .45 cal. M1911A1 pistol in a civilian holster, and an assault vest in lieu of LBE. Reflective armbands could be detected by supporting AC-130H 'Pave Spectre IT gunships; and an infra-red chemical light stick, taped to the MP5A3S sling, served as identification to other team members. These procedures and equipment items are basically no longer in use, having been replaced by improvements.

H3: Private First Class, Squad Automatic Weapon Gunner, 3d Bn., 75th Ranger Regt.; Ft. Benning, Georgia, 1986

The 5.56mm M249E1 squad automatic weapon (SAW), issued too late for Grenada, is allocated two per squad. It uses a 200-round belt in an assault pack; standard 20- and 30-round M16A1 magazines may also be used. The extended cold weather clothing system (ECWCS) Gor-Tex® all-weather suit is in the process of being issued to Ranger, LRS, SF, and light infantry units. Gor-Tex® is a special water- and windproof fabric which 'breathes', thus permitting sweat vapour to escape. Besides the three-layer parka and trousers, the ECWCS also includes a polyester pile jacket and trousers worn as suit liners, and gloves.

H4: Sergeant First Class, HHC, 75th Ranger Regt.; Ft. Benning, Georgia, 1986

HQ and HQ Co., 75th Rangers wear a beret flash similar to those worn by the three battalions. Its colours represent the designations of the six combat teams that made up Merrill's Marauders—red,

white, blue, green, khaki, and orange. This same style flash was worn by the 1st and 2d Bns. from 1974 to 1984, with no differentiation between battalions. However, a white bendlet was used rather than khaki, as it was reasoned that the khaki (and tan) uniform worn at the time represented Combat Team Khaki. With the activation of the 75th Inf. Regt., each battalion received a new flash. These have one to three red 'tick marks' on the white border. HHC retained a plain border. At the same time the white bendlet was replaced by one of khaki, as the khaki and tan uniforms were phased out in Oct. 1985. HHC's original scroll had 'INF' on the right end tab, replaced by 'RGT' after the regiment's redesignation in April 1986.

I: 'Gun Jeep', Security Team, 2d Bn. (Ranger), 75th Infantry; Ft. Lewis, Washington, 1981

An M151A2 ¼ton utility truck—'jeep'—was used by security teams to move rapidly to their roadblock sites or other objectives when securing airfields. They could be carried on C-141 and C-130 transports or HH-53 and CH-47 helicopters. While armed with two 7.62mm M60 machine guns, other weapons were also carried: 90mm M67 recoilless rifle, 66mm M202A1 'Flash' four-barrelled incendiary rocket launcher, 66mm M72A2 light anti-tank weapons (LAW), M18A1 'Claymore' anti-personnel mines, and various grenades. Barrier materials and warning signs (in the native language) were also carried. Team members were equipped with AN/PVS-5 night vision goggles, and some of their weapons with AN/PVS-4 starlight 'scopes.

J1: Rank immaterial—Ranger student; Camp Darby, Ft. Benning, Georgia, 1951-86

Reduced to the lowest common denominator, this Ranger student learns his place in his new world on the edge of Victory Pond. His rank may be anything from Spec. 4 to Captain; it makes no difference, as students wear no rank insignia, being referred to only as 'Ranger'. They wear only their name and US Army tapes—no unit insignia or special skill badges are permitted.

J2: Staff Sergeant, Ranger Instructor,3d Ranger Co.; Ft. Benning, Georgia, 1986

The 'RI' holds powers of life and death over Ranger students, or so they quickly and sincerely come to believe. He can inflict pain and award pleasure, i.e. food or sleep—true rarities. This RI is clothed in a typical running outfit. Usually, they wear olive green jungle fatigues or other appropriate seasonal clothing.

J3: Sergeant First Class, Ranger Instructor, 1st Ranger Co.; Camp Rudder, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida,1986

This Florida Phase RI wears a black beret with the Ranger Department flash and Infantry School crest. This flash was also worn by some other Ranger companies. The Ranger Department wears the Infantry School patch (similar to the crest) with a white/blue airborne tab.

J4: Sergeant, Fire Team Leader, 1st Bn. (Ranger),75th Infantry; Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia, 1984

This Grenada veteran wears the Army Green uniform. His participation in Operation 'Urgent Fury' is denoted by his Combat Infantryman's Badge, combat jump star on his jumpwings, and an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal ribbon with an assault arrowhead device (indicating an airborne—as in his case—or amphibious assault). He wears the scroll on his right shoulder, denoting combat service with the unit. A rifle squad's two fire teams consist of four men each.

K: Ranger unit insignia:

K1: 1st—6th Ranger Inf. Bns.

Although unofficial, the Ranger Battalion scrolls

Ranger Course students negotiate a barbed wire obstacle at Ft. Benning, early 1960s. (US Army)

were the accepted insignia of the units. The 1st Rangers' was designed by Sgt. Anthony Flint in late 1942; it was to set the standard for most future Ranger and LRRP scrolls. The battalions had their scrolls made locally as circumstances permitted, so they were not always available. Black, red, and white were established as the unofficial, but traditional colours. The current 1st, 2d, and 3d Bns., 75th Ranger Regt., officially adopted scrolls of similar design in 1984.

K2: Official Ranger patch

The 2nd Rangers initially wore the Second Army patch. The Rangers' patch was designed by a 2nd Rangers' officer and approved on 26 July 1943 for all Ranger Battalions. It was worn by the 2nd Rangers from September 1943. Non-Rangers referred to it as the 'Blue Sunoco', because of its similarity to the symbol of Sunoco Oil Company. Both 2nd and 5th Rangers continued to wear it, however, until the summer of 1945 (after VE Day) when they had scrolls locally made. Though intended for wear on the left shoulder, photographic evidence shows it worn on both shoulders in some cases. The other four battalions never wore it.

K3: Unofficial Ranger patch

After the above patch was authorised, the 5th Rangers began to wear an unofficial version in September 1943. It was replaced a couple of months later by the official one, worn until they adopted the scroll in June 1945.

K4: Unofficial Ranger tab

This tab was requested by Col. John W. Van Houten, CO of the Ranger Training Command, who felt the still-authorised diamond patch was inappropriate. The tabs were to be awarded to graduates of the Command and were to serve as both a qualification 'badge' and unit insignia. Though not approved, it was worn on a very limited basis in 1950-51.

K5; *Official Ranger tab*

This tab was approved in October 1950 for wear by Ranger Training Command graduates and as a unit insignia, in conjunction with a gold/black airborne tab beneath it; white/blue airborne tabs were sometimes used if the gold/black ones were not available. The reason *K4* was not approved remains something of a mystery. Although West Point officers have been accused of changing the colours to those of their old *alma mater* as the request went through channels, the explanation probably involves no such treachery. It may be nothing more than a compromise achieved by utilising the black of the unofficial scrolls and the gold yellow of the authorised diamond patch. The first tabs awarded to the 1st—4th Ranger Cos., on 13 Nov. 1950, used bright yellow rather than gold yellow. It was not generally considered a unit insignia by the troops, however, and the companies began to have their own scrolls made. The Ranger tab has since become the qualification badge for graduation of the Ranger Course. There were only two other ways in which an individual could be awarded the Ranger tab: to have served in one of the World War II Ranger Battalions or in Merrill's Marauders, and in

Ranger students paddle an inflatable Zodiac boat down the Yellow River; Camp Rudder, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. (US Army)

both cases to have been awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge. It is possible to complete the Ranger Course and not be 'tabbed' if full standards are not met. Full-colour tabs are often worn on field uniforms even though subdued ones are required. Another practice is for graduates of the Ranger Course who attended during the winter months (self-styled 'Winter Rangers')—a gruelling experience—to sew it on with white thread. The standard subdued tab has black lettering on an olive green backing without a black border, but examples do exist with a black border.

K6: 1st Ranger Inf. Co. (Airborne)
This is an example of a little-used type of scroll unofficially adopted by a limited number of Korean War era companies. Technically they were to wear the numbered army's patch to which assigned, but in practice most wore that of the division to which attached.

K7: 4th Ranger Inf. Co. (Airborne)
This is the more common style of scroll used by the Korean War era companies. On most—though there are several variations—the word 'RANGER' was larger than 'AIRBORNE'. In some cases specific units never had these types of scrolls, using other insignia. Once the units were disbanded, former members had scrolls made for wear as combat patches, i.e. the patch of an individual's former unit in which he served in a combat zone, could be worn on the right shoulder.

K8: Ranger Inf. Co. (Airborne)
This Korean War era generic scroll was available for wear by any unit. Scrolls of similar style, but in several variations, were also used during the Vietnam era.

Kg: Ranger-Airborne tab
Several of the Korean War era companies utilised this form of 'double' tab, thus complying with the original regulation specifying the Ranger tab be worn above an airborne tab.

K10:1st Bn. (Ranger), 75th Inf.
Both the 1st and 2d Bns., when formed in 1974, were supposed to wear a 75th Inf. patch derived from the Merrill's Marauders patch—which both battalions refused to wear. Each designed their own variation of the traditional scroll and wore them without authorisation. This was changed on 13 Dec. 1983 when they were authorised in recognition of the two battalions' performance on Grenada. This was the first time any type of Ranger scroll was officially recognised. This specific style of scroll was initially used by 1st Bn., but later one of the same design as *K11* was introduced, though seldom worn.

Ranger Course students rappel down a 50-foot cliff as a Ranger Instructor watches; Camp Merrill, Georgia. (US Army)

K11: 2d Bn. (Ranger), 73th Inf.
*1*st and 2d Bn. scrolls were also issued in subdued versions with black letters and borders on an olive green backing. Both were used until late 1984, when 'new' scrolls, almost identical to the 1st-3rd Rangers' World War II insignia, were officially adopted by the three battalions of the 75th Ranger Regiment. The new scrolls are also available in subdued versions.

L: LRP and Ranger unit scrolls:
None of the scrolls used by LRP/Ranger units are officially authorised, but they are usually tolerated to varying degrees by higher headquarters. Officially LRP/Ranger units were to wear either a gold/black or white/blue airborne tab over the patch of the army, corps, field force, division, brigade, or state headquarters to which attached. As can be seen, this was seldom done.

L1: 74th Inf. Detachment (LRP)
The design and colours of this scroll were borrowed from those of the Ranger Battalions.

L2: Co. F (LRP), 50th Inf.
F-50 was attached to the 101st Airborne Div. and its scroll reflected this. E-50, attached to the 9th Inf. Div., used a scroll of the same design and colours, but with '9TH' embroidered on the left end tab, also made in white-on-black.

L3: Co. E (LRP), 51st Inf.
Squared, rather than swallow-tailed, end tabs were used on this scroll.

L4: Co. F (LRP), 51st Inf.
This style of LRP scroll was to set the most common pattern for Vietnam era scrolls.

L5: Co. H (Ranger), 75th Inf.
With the reactivation of the 75th Inf., a more or less common scroll design evolved, merely by chance, rather than following any directives, which were not forthcoming to begin with. This version displays one of many shape variations. Any given Vietnam era unit often used several different shapes, lettering configurations, construction, and material variations during its period of active service.

L6: Co. K (Ranger), 75th Inf.
Another style of scroll shape and unit identification is depicted by this subdued version, which deleted the 'CO' and 'TH INF' from the end tabs. Besides the common black-on-olive-green versions, some were made using camouflage jungle fatigue fabric.

L7: Co. N (Ranger), 75th Inf.
This style, with swallow-tailed end tabs, was more common than those with squared ends. Versions with 'CO' and 'TH INF' were also more common than those without.

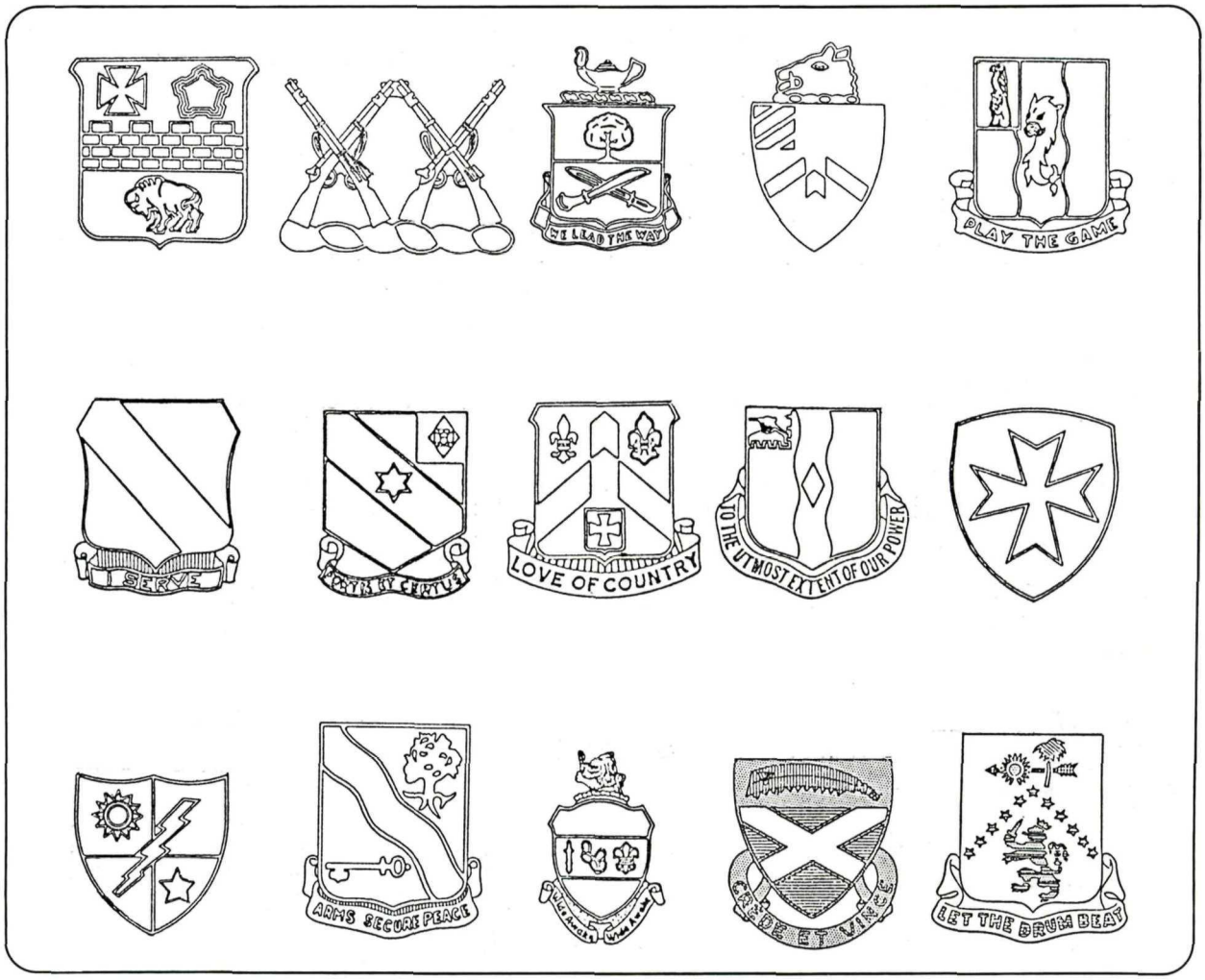
L8: Co. 0 (Ranger), 75th Inf.
Different in both colour and design than the usual 75th Inf. scroll, it was adopted in late 1970 by 0-75, re-activated in Alaska after service in Vietnam (where they wore the usual 75th Inf. scroll). The new scroll reflected its arctic mission and the colours were co-ordinated to those of the US Army, Alaska patch, over which it was worn.

L9: Co. D (Ranger), 151st Inf.
This ARNG unit selected a 75th Inf. style scroll. Examples with white lettering were also made, but were uncommon. Prior to being redesignated Ranger, scrolls with 'AIRBORNE—LONG RANGE PATROL' in white were used. Its sister unit, E-151, used the same designs.

L10: Co. G (Ranger), 143d Inf.
Adopted in 1980, this ARNG unit's scroll incorporated an entwined 'HLG' logo representing its original title, 'Houston Light Guard'. The logo itself is the same design used as a brass device on early shoulder boards. The colours represent the traditional company colours derived from its 1880s parade uniform of red coat and blue trousers trimmed with gold. The scroll is worn over the patch formerly worn by the 36th Inf. Div. and 71st and 36th Airborne Bdes., in order to keep the wear of the 'T-Patch' alive in Texas.

L11: Co. F (Ranger), 425th Inf.
This scroll's colours were selected to co-ordinate with the Michigan National Guard HQ patch, over which it was worn. Adopted in 1972, it proved to be somewhat unpopular, but was retained until 1979 in full-colour form. The subdued version was replaced in 1977.

L12: Co. F (Ranger), 425th Inf.
A more traditional scroll was adopted in 1979. A similar version, but in subdued form, was adopted in 1977. The subdued version was slightly larger, differently shaped, and did not have the 'CO' and 'TH INF'. The unit was redesignated LRRP in 1985, and re-adopted a gold/black airborne tab.



Ranger and LRP Distinctive Unit Insignia: DUIs, commonly referred to as crests, are usually no more than an inch in height and made of enamelled metal. (ASMIC) ***(Top, L to R):*** **D-17, E-20, B-1-29,** E-30, E **& F-50.** ***(Centre):*** **E & F-51; E &** F-52; **C, E & F-58; E-60; E-65.** ***(Bottom):*** **A through P-75* (no J), G-143, D & E-151, E-200, E & F-425.**

""Also used by 75th Ranger Regt.

Notes sur les planches en couleur

A1 Uniforme d'une pièce en tissu croisé, porté pendant l'instruction et lors de la campagne en Afrique du Nord; le casque *M1917A1* remplacé en automne 1942. Le Lieutenant Colonel *Darby* continua à porter le fusil *Springfield* bien après que le *Garand* ait été remis à son unité. **A2** La chemise de laine et les pantalons fournissaient une bonne protection. Notez les brassards blancs et le drapeau américain, utilisés à des fins d'identification immédiate. De nombreux hommes cousaient des fourreaux fixés à leur pantalon pour les couteaux *Fairburn-Sykes* qu'ils avaient acquis lors de leur instruction en Ecosse. **A3** Ce bataillon portait des couvre-casques. Notez les bottes d'escalade; les guêtres *M1938* étaient raccourcies à 12cm de hauteur; la veste de campagne *M1941* et le '*bazooka*' *M1 de 2, 36 pouces*. **A4** Une veste d'équipage de char et le bonnet tricoté, articles fort populaires parmi les *Chasseurs* (Rangers) en Afrique.

B1 Treillis d'été en tissu croisé à chevrons porté avec la veste *M1941*; les 2ème et 5ème bataillons peignaient un diamant orange et un numéro de bataillon noir au dos de leur casque, avec raies blanches, verticales pour les officiers et horizontales pour les sous-officiers. **B2** Uniforme de campagne *M1943*; des amas de tissus, les '*shoepacs*' *M1944* portés sur les pieds; la mitrailleuse *M1919A4 Browning .30*. **B3** La *tenue de combat* britannique était portée avec des bottes de parachutiste nord-américain et un matériel d'attaque à côté des *commandos*. Un mât de tente modifié pour pousser les grenades à travers les trous de tirailleur des blockhaus. (Encart: le signe distinctif non officiel de l'unité)

C1 Un tireur d'élite embusqué avec son fusil *M1903A4* était assigné à chaque peloton de Q.G. des *Chasseurs*. Notez le treillis '*à chevrons*' qui était porté presqu'universellement, le képi de campagne *M1941*, les bottes de combat *de 1944*

Farbtafeln

A1 Einteiliger Köper-Overall für die Ausbildung, im Einsatz getragen in Nordafrika; M1917Al-Helm, ersetzt im Herbst 1942. Oberstleutnant Darby trug das Springfield-Gewehr auch noch, nachdem seine Einheit das Garand erhalten hatte. **A2** Wollhemd und Hosen gewährten guten Schutz. Siehe weisse Armbinden und US-Flagge für schnelle Identifizierung. Viele Männer nähten selbst Scheiden für die Fairburn-Sykes-Messer an ihre Hosen; sie hatten die Messer bei der Ausbildung in Schottland erhalten. **A3** Dieses Battaillon trug Helmüberzüge. Siehe Kletterstiefel; M1938-Gamaschen auf 12, 7cm Höhe verringert; Feldjacke M1941; und M1 2, 36 in. 'Bazooka'. **A4** Panzer-soldatenjacke und gestrickte Kappe, beliebt bei den Rangers in Afrika.

B1 'Herringbone Twill'—Sommeruniform mit Jacke M1941; das 2. und das 5. Battaillon trugen orangefarbene Raute und schwarze Battaillonsnummer auf der Helmhinterseite, mit vertikalen weissen Streifen für Offiziere und horizontalen weissen Streifen für Unteroffiziere. **B2** Kampfuniform M1943; 'Shoepacs' M1944 an den Füssen; Browning .30-Maschinengewehr M1919A4. **B3** Britische Battledress, getragen mit US-Fallschirmjägerstiefeln, und Einsatzgeräte für Einsätze zusammen mit den Commandos. Ein modifizierter Zeltstock, mit dem Granaten durch Bunker-Schiessscharten geschoben wurden. (Einschub: die inoffiziellen Abzeichen der Einheit).

C1 Je ein Heckenschütze mit Gewehr M1903A4 wurde jedem Ranger-Zug zugeteilt. Siehe die fast allgemein getragene 'Herringbone'-Felduniform M1943 mit Kappe M1941, Feldstiefel 1944 und Messer M3. **C2** Zweiteilige Tarnuniform M1943, Kappe M1945; Karabiner M1A1, Pistole M1911A1; um sich aus einem Gefecht abzusetzen, verfügt er über Weissphsphor- und Splittergranaten. (Das

et le couteau *M3*; **C2** Un uniforme de deux pièces à camouflage, le képi de campagne *M1945*, la carabine *M1A* et le pistolet *M1911A1*; il porte, pour se dégager du combat des grenades à phosphore blanc et à fragmentation. (L'écusson semi-officiel des Éclaireurs Alamo était toujours porté sur le bras droit, mais jamais, bien sûr, sur l'uniforme de combat). **C3** Les '*Merrill's Marauders*' aimaient porter le képi de campagne et des écharpes faites de l'étoffe des parachutes, dont la couleur désignait les équipes de combat—rouge, blanche, bleue ou verte. L'écusson était fait par les membres de l'unité juste avant de se débander. Notez la palme *M1922*.

D1 Notez l'uniforme de bataille de 1943 de ce garde porté avec un képi à doublure en poil et des couvre-bottes en caoutchouc ainsi que la carabine *M2*. les chevrons de gradés de 1948–51 de 5cm de large, en bleu sur fond jaune pour les troupes de combat étaient très impopulaires. **D2** Ce treillis a fait son apparition dès l'année 1948. Des chevrons de style ancien portés par de nombreux hommes à une date avancée de la période officielle du type plus petit '*goldenlite*'. Un équipement vert olive, avec maintenant les nouveaux étuis à trois poches pour grenades; le fusil *M1* avec le lance-grenade *M7A1*; ce soldat est prêt à tirer une grenade à fragmentation *MkIIA1* tandis que des grenades de type *M9A1 et M19* se trouvent sur le sol. **D3** Tenue de bataille *M1943*, casque *M1C*, parachute *T-7A*; au-dessous de son parachute de réserve, son sac d'ordonnance *M1945*; avec ceinture de munitions pour la mitrailleuse *.30* de son peloton. **D4** Il a uniquement été confirmé que les 10ème et 13ème Compagnies portaient des bérets noirs à cette période, bien que d'autres compagnies aient pu en faire de même.

E1 Le béret des troupes aéroportées françaises se portait en campagne et dans les casernes, jusqu'à ce qu'il soit interdit en 1964. Treillis *OG 107*; Insigne des *V-Corps* avec galon noir spécial (pré 1963); le matériel *M1956*; Le sac à dos de montagne *M1951*; le fusil *M14*. **E2** Le calot de campagne '*baseball*' introduit en 1964 n'était pas populaire. Cette compagnie a utilisé le '*jumpwing oval*' comme signe distinctif jusqu'en 1986. Notez la radio *AN/PRC-74B* et le dispositif de codage/transmission rapide *AN/GRA-71*. Notez le fusil *M16A1* nouvellement distribué. **E3** képi et uniforme *M1951*, avec combinaison de camouflage blanche portée sur les pantalons et qui ne dissimule bien que dans la neige parmi des arbres. Sur la poitrine, du côté gauche, l'écusson des parachutistes de grade supérieur; à droite, l'insigne des pilotes, les 'wings' de la *Bundeswehr*.

F1 On a vu de très grandes variations de l'uniforme de camouflage vert olive, des garnitures de tête et de l'équipement personnel au Vietnam. Le chef de patrouille transportait normalement l'une des deux radios de l'équipe. On portait aussi des munitions et de l'eau supplémentaires ainsi que des grenades à fragmentation et fumigènes de couleur. Des mitaines protégeaient contre les épines sans gêner l'emploi des armes. **F2** Des vêtements mieux conçus et des articles de matériel plus légers etaient utilisés à cette date, mais les goûts personnels restaient le critère lors du combat. Notez le 'pinceau radar' et le couteau de survie des forces aériennes sur son équipement en toile; et la mitraillette *CAR-15*. **F3** Les conseillers militaires nord-américains auprès des unités de Chasseurs *ARVN* portaient l'insigne *ARVN* et quelquefois l'uniforme *ARVN*, comme ici. Le signe distinctif en forme de listel des 'Chasseurs' (les *Rangers*) était uniquement porté par le personnel nord-américain. **F4** Béret noir non réglementaire, avec une des nombreuses variations du signe distinctif, porté ici par le personnel de la *75th Infantry*.

G1 Il porte un uniforme avec couche de protection contre le 'froid/la secheresse' pour service dans l'Arctique; et un fusil *.300 H&H Magnum Winchester Model 70*, distribué spécialement aux sentinelles contre les ours polaires. **G2** Cet uniforme pour la jungle est en cours de remplacement par le type 'camouflage en terrain boisé'. Les pièces des '*jumpwings*' britanniques et de l'*International LRRP School* indiquent des exercices fréquents avec des unités alliées. Notez l'équipement *ALICE*; l'harnachement *STABO* et le *Kukri* qui fait partie de l'équipement de survie. Le sac à dos *Alpinist II* acheté personnellement porte un rouleau de treillis métallique pour camoufler les positions. **G3** La première unité *LRS* officiellement opérationnelle; notez le béret maron de toutes les unités *LRS*. L'écusson indique le lien de parenté entre cette unité et son unité mère, 1er Escadron, 10ème de Cavalerie. **G4** Les bérets noirs n'étaient pas réglementaires jusqu'en 1979. Les officiers portaient le *Ranger 'tab'* audessus de leur insigne de gradé; un autre personnel, au-dessus de l'écusson de la *75th Infantry*.

H1 En tenue complète pour les exercices annuels du '*Bright Star*' en Egypte, avec l'uniforme de combat en désert introduit dans l'*US Army* en 1982. Notez le fusil du tireur d'élite embusqué *M21*, un fusil *M14* amélioré; et l'équipement *ALICE*. **H2** Un *Ranger* de l'une des unités organisées pour assurer la sécurité des champs d'aviation pendant l'opération de sauvetage des otages américains à Téhéran. **H3** Notez la mitrailleuse légère *SAW*; et un nouvel uniforme *GOR-TEX* pour les opérations en 'période de froid prolongée'. **H4** Le béret courant '*flash*' du QG et de la Compagnie du QG, les *75th Rangers* depuis 1984.

I La '*jeep*' *M151A2* est utilisée pour assurer la protection des champs d'aviation, avec des armes variées: deux mitrailleuses *M60*, plus les lances-roquettes *M72A2* et *M202A1*, des mines *Claymore M18A1*, etc. Des barrières de circulation et des panneaux de signalisation dans la langue indigène adéquate, étaient transportés, ainsi que des dispositifs de vision nocturne.

J1, 2 Les élèves de l'école des *Rangers* ne portaient pas de signes distinctifs en dehors de leurs noms et du ruban de l'*US Army*. Leur instructeur porte une tenue de course caractéristique. **J3** Le béret noir avec l'insigne du '*Ranger Department*' et l'écusson de l'*Infantry School*. **J4** Un vétéran de Grenade, dans un uniforme *Army Green*; le '*Combat Infantryman's Badge*', l'étoile du 'combat jump' sur l'insigne de pilote, les 'wings' de parachutiste, et le ruban de l'*Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal* avec 'la flèche d'assaut' qui indiquent qu'il a participé à l'opération de la Grenade. Le listel est porté sur l'épaule droite, indiquant qu'il a pris part au service armé de cette unité.

K et L Pour des raisons d'espace, le détail des légendes ne peut être traduit ici. Les lecteurs devront se référer aux légendes en anglais qui devraient être explicites dans la plupart des cas.

am Arm aufgenähte Abzeichen der halboffiziellen Alamo Scouts wurde stets rechts getragen, aber natürlich nicht auf der kampfuniform). **C3** 'Merrill's Marauders' bevorzugten den Field Hat, sowie Halstücher aus Fallschirmseide in den Farben der jeweiligen Kampfeinheiten: rot, weiss, blau oder grün. Das Ärmelabzeichen wurde von Mitgliedern der Einheit hergestellt—kurz bevor sie aufgelöst wurde. Siehe M1922 BAR.

D1 Florgefütterte Kappe und Gummiüberstiefel, hier von einem Posten mit einer Felduniform von 1943 und einem Karabiner M2 getragen. Die Rangabzeichen von 1948–51, 5cm breit, blau auf gelb für Kampftruppen, waren unbeliebt. **D2** Diese Arbeitsuniform erschien ab 1948. Die alten Rangabzeichen wurden von vielen Männern während der ganzen offiziellen Periode der kleinen 'Goldenlite'-Abzeichen getragen. Olivegrüne Ausrüstung, jetzt mit dreiteiligem Granatenbeutel; Gewehr M1 mit Granatwerfer M7A1; er ist im Begriffe, eine Splittergranate MkIIA1 abzuschiessen, während er die Typen M9A1 und M19 am Boden liegen hat. **D3** Kampfuniform M1943, Helm M1C, Fallschirm T-7A; unter dem Reservepack befindet sich sein Tornister M1945, mit einem Munitionsgurt für das 0, 3 Kaliber-Maschinengewehr seines Zuges. **D4** Das Tragen schwarzer Kappen in dieser Periode ist nur für die 10. und die 13. Kompanie bestätigt, obwohl sie auch anderswo getragen worden sein dürften.

E1 Im Feld und in den Kasernen wurden französische Fliegerkappen getragen, bis sie 1964 verboten wurden. OG 107-Uniformen; V Corps-Abzeichen mit speziellem schwarzem Rand (vor 1963); Gerät M1956; Gebirgsrucksack M1951; Gewehr M14. **E2** Die 1964 eingeführte Baseball-Feldkappe war nicht populär. Die Kompanie benutzte dieses 'Jumpwing oval' als Abzeichen bis 1986. Siehe Radio AN/PRC-74B und Kodiersendegerät AN/GRA-71. Siehe neu ausgegebenes Gewehr M16A1. **E3** Kappe M1961 und Uniform, mit weissen Tarnhosen—gute Tarnung auf Schnee unter Bäumen. Auf der linken Brustseite Fallschirmjäger-Seniorenabzeichen; rechts Bundeswehr-'Schwingen'.

F1 Sehr starke Variationen in olivegrünen und Tarnuniformen, Kopfbedeckungen und persönlicher Ausrüstung waren in Vietnam zu sehen. Der Patrullenführer trug meist eines der beiden Funkgeräte der Gruppe. Zusätzliche Munition, Wasser, Splitter- und Rauchsignalgranaten wurden mitgetragen. Fingerlose Handschuhe schützten gegen Dornen, ohne die Waffenbedienung zu behindern. **F2** Nun gab es bereits bessere Kleidung und leichtere Geräte, aber im Feld war nach wie vor der persönliche Geschmack ausschlaggebend. Siehe Signallampe und Luftwaffenmesser, sowie Maschinenpistole CAR-15. **F3** US-Militärberater bei den ARVN-Rangereinheiten trugen ARVN. Abzeichen und manchmal, wie hier, auch ARVN-Uniformen. Das aufgenähte Stoffabzeichen der Ranger wurde nur von US-Personal getragen. **F4** Inoffizielle schwarze Kappe, mit einer von verschiedenen Abzeichenvariationen, getragen von Mitglieder der 75. Infanterie.

G1 Er trägt die vielschichtige Uniform—Schutz gegen Kälte und Nässe—für Dienst in der Arktis; er hat ein.300 H&H Magnum Winchester Model 70-Gewehr, speziell für den Einsatz gegen Eisbären. **G2** Diese Dschungeluniform wird zur Zeit von der Wald-Tarnuniform abgelöst. Abzeichen wie die britischen 'Jumpwings' und 'International LRRP School' deuten auf häufige Übungen mit alliierten Einheiten hin. Siehe ALICE-Ausrüstung, STABO-Gurten und 'Kukri' als Teil der Notausrüstung. Der privat erworbene Rucksack Alpinist II trägt eine Drahtnetzrolle für Tarnzwecke. **G3** Die erste offiziell in Dienst gestellte LRS-Einheit—alle mit braunen Kappen. Das Abzeichen markiert die Beziehung mit der Stammeinheit, dem 1. Squadron der 10. Kavallerie. **G4** Schwarze Kappen waren bis 1979 nicht offiziell. Offiziere trugen das Ranger 'Tab' über dem Rangabzeichen, die Soldaten das Abzeichen der 75. Infanterie.

H1 Uniform für die jährlichen 'Bright Star'-Manöver in Ägypten—die 1982 in der US-Armee eingeführte Wüstenuniform. Siehe Heckenschützengewehr M21, ein verbessertes Modell M14; und die ALICE-Ausrüstung. **H2** Ranger einer jener Einheiten, die Flugplätze bei der geplanten Befreiung amerikanischer Geiseln in Teheran absichern sollten. **H3** Siehe leichtes Maschinengewehr SAW, und neue Gor-Tex-Uniform für 'langfristiges kaltes Wetter'. **H4** Derzeitiges Kappenabzeichen 'flash' für Hauptquartier und Hauptquartier-Kompanie, 75. Rangers, seit 1984.

I Zur Sicherung von Flugplätzen wird der Jeep M151A2 verwendet, mit verschiedenen Waffen: zwei Maschinengewehre M60, sowie Raketenwerfer M202A1 und M72A2, Claymore-Minen M18A1, usw. Ferner gab es Verkehrsbarrieren und Nachtsichtgeräte.

J1, 2 Rekruten im Ranger-Kurs tragen keine Abzeichen ausser ihren Namen und das US Army-Band. Der Instruktor trägt einen typischen Laufanzug. **J3** Schwarze kappe mit Ranger Department-Abzeichen und Infantry School-Wappen. **J4** Ein Veteran von Grenada in grüner Armeeuniform; mit Combat Infantryman's Badge, Fallschirmabsprung-Abzeichen über seiner Fallschirmjägerschwinge und Abzeichen der Armed Forces Expeditionary medal mit 'Angriffspfeilspitze'—all das als Bestätigung seiner Teilnahme an der Operation von Grenada. Auf der rechten Schulter das aufgenähte Stoffabzeichen der Rangers zeigt den Kampfeinsatz mit dieser Einheit an.

K und L Aus Platzmangel können hier detaillierte Bildtexte nicht in Übersetzung angegeben werden. Der Lesser möge sich auf die englischen Bildtexte beziehen, die in den meisten Fällen unmissverständlich sein sollten.

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Avec annotations en francais sur les planches en couleur.
Mit Aufzeichnungen auf Deutsch über den Farbtafeln.

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